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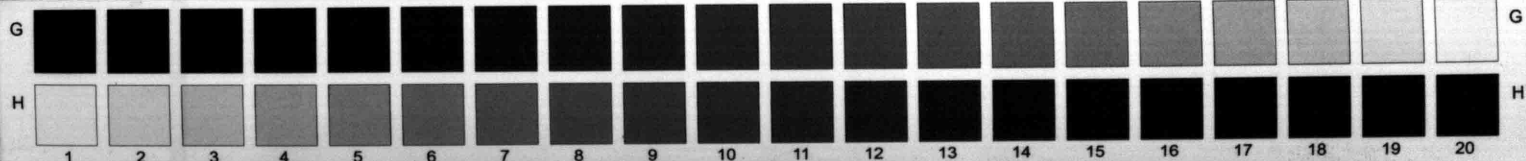
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THE ROLT CASE.

ENQUIRY AT KISHENGUNGE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Kishanganj (Purnea), Mar. 1.
The proceedings in the Rolt enquiry began at 11-15 a.m. Mr. Morison stated that he had been informed that the pleader who had formerly appeared for Mr. Rolt and then for the other side had decided to withdraw from the case. He stated that he had given no information and under the circumstances Mr. Morison begged to withdraw his objection.

Mr. Morison first cross-examined Asaf Ali Khan on charge four. Witness remembered Mr. Rolt assisting in making collections of a property. Mr. Rolt sent him seven perwannas, asking for collections and he may have replied that no collections had been made. He may have written that Rs. 4,000 of the collections was held by him. (This letter was handed to the Committee). Asaf Ali Khan was then examined with regard to his books. Witness said that when he entered Rs. 3,500 as a loan to Mr. Rolt he meant it to be a secret. His books were afterwards in different courts. If he had to do the same thing in future he would do it differently. A loan was not the correct description of the transaction. Witness said Mr. Faulder had examined the books kept by him for 24 years and had found nothing wrong, except that he was an easy living man. Witness was aware that Mr. Faulder had ordered him to be prosecuted on a charge of forging an entry in the Nawab's books. The case was dismissed. A police officer had called on him a month or so ago, but not in connection with a dacoity or his books. He had heard it reported that he had been mixed up in a dacoity. Witness had not heard of this case against Mr. Rolt until the books were taken away from them.

When he took the books to the Deputy Collector 2 were missing; he could not find them and had not been asked for them. In book 1308 the credit balance had not been brought forward to the first page of book 1309. Most of the front pages of his books were torn out. With regard to charge three, witness stated that he may have owed money to the Khagra Estate when he positioned the Collector for the Kistibundi privilege. Before his positioning the Collector Mr. Rolt had not said anything about his wanting money. Witness had never put in any false defences.

After the luncheon adjournment Mr. Morison continued the cross-examination of Asaf Ali Khan, with reference to land transactions during the sale of Dhanfolah. Witness stated that he tendered Rs. 5,000 and the sale was stopped. He had not paid the money before because he did not have it. Witness had himself first approached Mr. Rolt in connection with a bribe; he had paid him Rs. 3,000, six months after his petition for Kistibundi had been filed before the Collector. He could not tell who took the money to Mr. Rolt, as he had not a clear recollection. It was in the book; there was no reason why he should not have paid the money himself. He had not paid the instalments for which he obtained the right of Kistibundi and given a bribe. He did not have any connection with the subsequent sale of Dhanfolah. Later witness said his son-in-law was the purchaser. This was set aside and the Khagra Estate again attached the property in execution. He had not heard that Hyder Bux had bid up to Rs. 31,000 for it at the time of the third sale of this property. Witness stated that Hyder Bux and Mohamed Hossain were in jail.

At this stage witness was re-examined by the Government pleader. He said he was an Honorary Magistrate; his health had been bad for a month or so. Mr. Rolt assisted him on the occasion of the marriage of Shujat Ali with Begum. He had told Mr. Lea, the Collector, the settlement officer, and Shamsul Zoha about Mr. Rolt taking bribes. He had told Mr. Downing something else. He had told Mr. Temple that the Kani had not money when she died, because she had told him so.

Wazid Ali was next examined: He stated he had been a Mohurur for 8 years in the service of Asaf Ali Khan. Witness often used to take money to Mr. Rolt. He remembered taken some age notes, six or seven years ago. Mr. Rolt told him to bring cash instead. He changed the notes at a Marwaris. Cross-examined: He often took rent to Mr. Rolt's office. He did not know what the money was for. It may have been rent. In connection with this case he was first examined by Mr. Lea, who sent for him.

Sohavai, a servant of Asaf Ali Khan was next examined: He stated he remembered being sent with Wazid Ali to Mr. Rolt, at the dak bungalow at Kishanganj with notes amounting to Rs. 3,500. Cross-examined he said that he had known of an enquiry since Mr. Rolt's suspension. No one had examined him about the case till now. He had no conversation with Asaf Ali Khan on this matter. This was the only occasion he had paid Mr. Rolt money at the bungalow. He had paid rent at the office before. He had helped to examine the account books yesterday. He remembered the occasion of taking money because he was appointed tlesdar. His wages were Rs. 7 a month. (Witness was questioned as to his memory and on the handwriting in the books.)

The cross-examination closed the examination for to-day.

Kishanganj, (Purnea), Mar. 3.
The Rolt case was resumed to-day with the examination of Mohamed Hossain, who said that Leakat Hossain was his cousin. He knows Mr. Rolt. He and Leakat Hossain once came to Khagra to Mr. Rolt, but he could not say how long ago or at what season. Leakat brought him. They went to Mr. Rolt with Rs. 1,500 in two bags. Leakat carried one bag and the witness another. The money was given to Mr. Rolt.

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Cross-examined witness said: Asaf Ali Khan was also a relative of his. The witness started from his own house to go to Mr. Rolt. He could not say whether it was in the morning or the evening. He arrived at Mr. Rolt's about noon. Leakat does not live with witness. Leakat did not call for him but both started together. Their houses are in the same compound. There was no necessity for witness to accompany Leakat to Khagra. Witness wished to purchase some cloths and he accompanied Leakat to Khagra. He can call no witness except Leakat to prove that he accompanied Leakat to Mr. Rolt. He has no recollection of what things he purchased on that occasion. Leakat did not come to witness first but witness went to Leakat. Witness then said Leakat called on him first. He first saw the money on a cart. Leakat had not told him before for what purpose he was going to Khagra. He could not say how many years ago this happened. It was not long ago.

Q.—Did you not first say it was so long ago that you could not recollect?
A.—I did not.
Six months to his thinking was a long period. Witness has never kept any books nor does he know whether Leakat keeps any. He has heard that his uncle, Leakat's father made over his property to the Khagra estate for management. He has heard that a suit was brought by Mr. Rolt against Leakat's father on a mortgage bond. The driver of the cart in which the money was taken to Mr. Rolt belonged to our village. He has run away, but could not say why or when he ran away. Witness remained near the cart while Leakat went to call Mr. Rolt's peon to inform Mr. Rolt that he had come. Leakat specially asked him to go to Mr. Rolt's house. Can't say if Asaf Ali had given evidence in this case.

Witness Nathoo, for whose evidence an adjournment was granted yesterday, was at this stage, brought into the Court held by two police constables. Shown an entry in the book he said the top portion was in his handwriting but not the lower portion. Shown another book, witness said the entries in both pages marked (Exhibit 2) were in his handwriting. Mr. Morison drew the Court's attention to the conduct of the Government pleader who in showing the top portion of the entry in the first book directly pointed to it against Mr. Harrison's expressed wish. The Government pleader repudiated the assertion, and the Commissioners said they had seen what had been done and there was no need for discussion. Asked by Mr. Richardson what disease he was suffering from, witness said bleeding from the nose. Witness then identified an entry in a book made in Moomuzi's handwriting. All entries purported the money payments to Mr. Rolt made several years ago. Moomuzi was dead; he died seven or eight years ago. Books are written up at the time of payment.

Cross-examined, witness said the books were written up daily; he has worked with Asaf Ali 10 or 12 years, but Asaf Ali is not quite conversant with his handwriting. At this stage a Government native doctor who was sent for by the court, felt witness' pulse and said he had fever, but it was not very high. Witness, during his cross-examination, as to the manner in which the books of accounts were kept suddenly showed signs of fatigue, closing his eyes and bending his head on one side.

Jogendra Nath Mookerjee, who was cross-examining, suggested witness might have some respite, and the Government pleader said he would call Badhloo, who was in even a worse condition. (Laughter.) Mr. Richardson, a member of the Commission, then went to the Court compound, where Badhloo was lying, thickly covered over with reas, and ordered the native doctor to be sent for to examine Badhloo, to know if he was fit to give his evidence. The doctor, after examining Badhloo, said he did not think he should give evidence, as the result would be exhausting, and might make him worse; but it would not be dangerous. Meanwhile Nathoo went off to sleep, reclining against the wall and the doctor, examining him, said that if witness had a little sleep he would be refreshed and could continue to give his evidence. The doctor tried to awake him, but witness was obdurate; would just open his eyes and drop off again into seeming sleep. Eventually, when told he would only have to answer a single question he revived.

The court have adjourned for luncheon. After the adjournment, Nathoo's cross-examination was continued. In regard to the account books, how they were kept and by whom, his answers were right. It was a long time now, witness heard, that some pages of the book for 1309 were missing. A search had been instituted by order of Asaf Ali, but without avail. The Commissioners overruled the Government pleader's request to re-examine witness on new points.

Mr. Clifford Y. Downing, examined, said he was manager in behalf of Prithi Chand Lal, a minor. He has been manager of the Soojapore estate for about six years. He knows Guch Dekshera, and knows it was about to be sold last year. Witness was asked to value the property. The owner, Roshan went to Purnea to get some money from the executors. Witness ordered one of his amins to report about Guch. Witness said that the whole correspondence on this business has disappeared. He can personally say Guch was not worth purchasing. In his opinion the proper price of the property of his own in the district yielding Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000 a year.

Cross-examined witness said Rs. 1,000 were a high price for Guch. He could not say what the rent was that was paid to the superior landlord. He could not say what the proportion of cultivable and uncultivable land was.

Ahmad Nawab Khan, witness' Assistant Manager, is nephew of Asaf Ali Khan. He was in jail for 12 months.

Maulvi Mohiuddin, examined, said that he knew Guch Dekshera. He was called to make an estimate of its value. He submitted his report to the collector. The report was taken as read and put in. Maulvi Shamsul Zoha took exception to his report. According to him the value of this Guch would be about Rs. 600. The soil is sandy and poor. There is more high than low land.

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Cross-examined the witness said that he thought Mr. Rolt a very clever officer. He was under Mr. Lea in the district but not his subordinate. His immediate superior was Mr. Byrne. He considered Shamsul Zoha's demi-official letter to him as a suggestion to reconsider his first estimate. He did not think Shamsul Zoha a better judge in estimating land than himself but it was quite open to Shamsul Zoha to make a suggestion to him. The reason why he altered his first estimate was because the Collector did not ask him in the first instance to value the whole Guch. The first time that he knew there was a complaint against Mr. Rolt about the valuation of this Guch was when he received the Collector's demi-official letter. He did not know what the particular charges were but he gathered from the demi-official letter that Mr. Rolt had bought the Guch at too high a price.

The Government pleader:—Have you formed any opinion of Mr. Rolt's honesty?
Mr. Richardson:—You cannot put that question. That's what we are here for.

Kishanganj, Mar. 4.
The inquiry was resumed to-day at noon when the Court read out the sixth charge already published. Mr. Morison said that, before the evidence was gone into, he wished to call the Court's particular attention to Mr. Rolt's explanation of the 17th February, 1905. At first Mr. Rolt was called upon to meet only five charges. He afterwards left himself entirely in the hands of the Court and consented to the sixth charge being added, but he made it a condition that the evidence to be taken should not be of a general character, such as that of Jack, Bill, Tom and Harry from the bazaar, and Mr. Morison would, under the circumstances, positively object to general evidence being given.

Mr. Richardson said they would only take the evidence dealing with particular items of the charge.

Mr. Morison asked the Court to place it on record that during the whole of these proceedings Shamsul Zoha and Nandkishore Lal, Deputy Magistrate, had been in Court instructing the Government Pleader.

Mr. Richardson said they had made a note of it.

Sosi Bhusan Koor, who appeared for the Government Pleader, who retired to-day from the case, said that the two gentlemen named had been present under orders.

Babulal, examined, said he knew the Khagra mela. He played the ring game at the mela. The arrangements were made with Amjad Ali last year for Rs. 25. Amjad Ali made the settlements for all the games being played at the mela for Rs. 3,000. The settlements were made in witness's presence in Mr. Rolt's house. There were various games of chance played at the mela—about thirteen or fourteen different games this year. Witness and Tofijuddin took the lease of all games of chance for Rs. 2,000.

Cross-examined, witness said that he chose the ring games for himself. Fourteen days' gambling was allowed. Although the lessee of all the games this year, he kept the Ring game for himself. Many persons were present in Mr. Rolt's house when Amjad Ali sent the settlement for gambling at the mela. The gamblers got receipts from Amjad Ali just year. As far as witness knew Jan Mahomed did not go to Mr. Rolt's house to settle last year. The three-card trick was played only one day this year and was stopped by the daroga. It used to be played during Mr. Rolt's time at the mela, but the police never stopped it. Last year Amjad Ali paid Rs. 500 to Mr. Rolt's peon at the time of the bid. Witness bid Rs. 2,000 this year in the hope that the games of chance would be permitted to be played, but the mela was on a smaller scale this year. There was no regular auction sale held last year, but offers were made to Mr. Rolt direct. Witness went personally to Mr. Haliday and made his offer. Witness gambled at other melas as well, but he had a stone plate business besides. He had been gambling at the Khagra mela four or five years. For these four or five years he had had no stone plate shop, but went to the mela simply to gamble. He remembered when he was examined by Mr. Lea at the mela. He was brought from Raipur to Kishanganj by Najpulla, Inspector, seven or eight days ago to give evidence in this case. He was paying his own expenses and had not asked for them from any one. He came to Kishanganj because he was cited as a witness.

Amjad Ali, examined, said he knew the Khagra mela. He made a settlement for gambling at that mela last year for Rs. 3,000. He made the settlement with Mr. Rolt at his house. Altogether he paid Mr. Rolt Rs. 2,700, Rs. 300 being left off, as witness made no profit. He had no sharehold in his Rs. 3,000 settlement and had no regular account of the gambling settlement. He received the 'purwana' for the settlement. During the last three months witness was once called by Zoolum Sing, barkandaz. Mr. Rolt told witness to destroy all his license papers or to dispose of them in some way. Maulvi Abdul Rahim was present when he went to Mr. Rolt. He left telling Mr. Rolt he would destroy his papers. Witness met Mr. Rolt again at his bungalow. Mr. Rolt had a long conversation with him, and asked him if he had burned his papers. He said he had, but his brother had some papers with him in Calcutta. He was called again at night to Mr. Rolt's bungalow, who asked him if he was going to give evidence against him. (The Sahib had done him no harm.) Mahomed Hussain went with witness to his house and offered him Rs. 200, telling him that if he asked about the payment of the mela money he was to say that he had paid it to the cashier, and that he had had no transaction with the Sahib. Rs. 250 was the amount deposited for the games. Jan Mahomed was sent for by Mr. Rolt three or four times.

Q.—What did Jan Mahomed tell you?
Mr. Cumming: You can't ask that question.
Sosi Bhusan: We are in this difficulty that we can't produce Jan Mahomed.
Mr. Cumming: I see your point, but we can't help you.
Cross-examined, witness said he was a C. Class bad character.

Have you been in jail?—Yes.
How often has your house been searched by the Police? Never for the past four or five months. I have not to report my movements to the police.

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Witness then said he had not destroyed his books, but they had mysteriously disappeared. Shamsul Zoha went one night to witness's house and took some papers. On the morning of that day Zoha sent for him and told him to get his books. The Peshkar handed witness a 'purwana' but he did not read its contents. He told Zoha that all his books were missing. Instantly Zoha went to his house he commenced his prayers, but Zoha waited and asked him what had become of his books and he told him what he has stated. He told Zoha he suspected Jan Mahomed had done away with the books. Jan Mahomed was with witness when Zoha called at witness's house, but it never struck him to tell Zoha to question Jan Mahomed on the point.

After the luncheon adjournment Amjad Ali, being further cross-examined, said the day witness visited Shamsul Zoha's house twice with Mahomed Hussain his evidence was not recorded by Zoha. He did make a statement to Zoha, which was written down. It might be in 'Bhadro' or 'Assin.' He made a statement to Mr. Lea in the Khagra office eight or twelve days after he made the statement to Zoha. He had no suspicion previously that his books would be missing. He had no recollection of the contents of the missing books. He had a 'pucca' book, but it was missing. The book contained all sorts of transactions. Witness here said he was not sure if he had made over any papers or extracts from his books to Zoha. He received a 'purwana' dated 29th August, 1904, to produce his accounts and other papers, but he did not know what the contents of the 'purwana' were. At the time he received the 'purwana' his books were not lost. When he saw Zoha they were lost. A 'purwana' was here put in which showed that until the witness had made a statement affecting the items in charge six, no settlement of his land was made with him by the Collectorate. Witness bid Rs. 3,000 for the gambling license at the Khagra mela last year. Someone bid Rs. 2,500. It was finally knocked down for Rs. 3,000. His book disappeared from his temporary residence at Kishanganj. He had left it on his bed and gone to see Mahomed Hussain. When he returned the book was missing. He made no report to the police about the book. He mentioned it to Zoha when he called on him in the evening. He did not recollect if he mentioned to Zoha about his interview with Mr. Rolt when the latter suggested to him to burn the papers, and subsequently asked him if he had carried out his suggestion. He never told Mr. Rolt in the presence of any gentlemen that Zoha was making 'zoolum' on him to give false evidence against Mr. Rolt. In the mela case he had no enmity against Mr. Rolt owing to his honesty. Witness did not accept a bribe of Rs. 200 offered by Mr. Rolt, through Mahomed Hussain, to burn up his papers concerning the mela transaction.

Clifford Y. Downing, examined, said he had no definite knowledge of the working of the Khagra mela, except what he had heard from his Khazanchi. Then after a while he said he also knew from a general report. This was objected to by Mr. Morison.

Samoodar Khan, a convict of Purnea jail, examined, said that he knew the Khagra mela, where he took a license three years ago for gambling. He first paid Rs. 2,200, again Rs. 2,200. It was then raised to Rs. 2,500 by a Punjabi, and then it rose to Rs. 3,000. The money was paid to Mr. Rolt. He was examined by the Collector at Purnea after he had been arrested on a charge of dacoity and murder. He was

arrested in his home at Peshawar. He was examined the first day after being taken to Purnea under arrest. Cross-examined the witness said that when arrested at Peshawar he told them that the dacoity had been committed in the Punjab, but he was brought down to Purnea. Just at the close of the days hearing a sensational incident occurred. It transpired during the witness's cross-examination that Mr. Morison had called for the records in connection with the order in reference to the witness's release on bail. At first the record was not produced, but after pressure by Mr. Morison it was produced to-day. From the record it appeared that after Samoodar Khan's trial for bad livelihood he was ordered to furnish two sureties, failing which to be sent to Purnea jail whence the witness wrote a letter to his relations, two of whom came down to Kishanganj and offered to stand sureties. The Sub-divisional Officer wrote a letter to Peshawar asking if the sureties were substantial men. The reply received was in the affirmative. Then the Sub-divisional Officer ordered the witness's release on payment of the usual fee stamp of 8 annas. This information was not conveyed to either the witness or the sureties, who had left. The witness heard for the first time to-day regarding his relations coming down and that for want of the payment of eight annas he had been confined fourteen days.

Mr. Richardson: It may be there was good reason for the man's being kept in some jail.

Mr. Morison: It may be a coincidence, but a wrong record was first produced and then we were told that there was no jail record in existence. But when we pressed, this record was produced.

Mr. Richardson: We will deal with this matter separately.
Mr. Morison: My opinion on the conduct of Mr. Lea would be an 'obiter dictum,' but I can comment on the fact of the man being illegally kept in jail so as to be forced to give false evidence against us here.
Mr. Morison tendered a rupee for the stamp so as to enable the prisoner to be released.
Mr. Richardson said that no doubt this would be done by Mr. Lea.
Mr. Lea, who was present in Court, said he would see that the man was released. The Court then rose for the day.

The outbreak of plague at Aden, referred to in Reuter's telegrams, began in December, there being 162 deaths in that month. These were followed by about 350 deaths in January. Since then the weekly mortality has been 200, 257, 342 and 342, the latest report being for the week ending the 25th February. The death-rate is very high considering the small population.

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COMMERCIAL NOTES.

In spite of the Government order of a year or so ago prohibiting the export of certain birds' feathers out of India, it appears that some native dealers in Southern India have been endeavouring to get their goods out of the country via Pondicherry. The authorities have, however, been alive to their 'tricks' and several consignments have lately been confiscated as contravening the customs regulations.

It has been officially notified to the country that the Imperial Bacteriological Laboratory at Mukhtesar in the Naini Tal district of the United Provinces will in future be the centre for the supply of all sera and prophylactics required by Government officials for the prevention or cure of animal diseases in India as distinct from diseases affecting the human subject. The Institution, we hear, is now fully equipped and doing valuable work in the distribution of its products throughout the country.

Those engaged in the fibre industry on this side of the country may be interested to learn that at the Agricultural Exhibition lately held at Hiriyun in the Chitaldroog district of the Mysore State there was a fine show in the 'Fibres' class which included cotton and fibres of the hemp, jute, alooe, coconut and date plants. In Mysore the industry is beginning to attract more attention, and it is not improbable that with the fibre resources of the Province it may in course of time assume important dimensions. Thanks to a liberal policy of the Mysore Government the people are being gradually educated to take up the exploitation of the natural resources of the country.

The report of the gold-mining industry in India says that outside the Mysore State the only gold quartz mine producing gold at the end of 1903 was the Hutti mine in the Ling-sagar district of Hyderabad (Nizam's Dominions), the company working it being an offshoot of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company and was floated in 1901. Work was begun at Hutti in 1903, the total output for that year having amounted to 3,414 ounces. The result has been considered so promising that the crushing power at the mine is being doubled. The report adds that the workings of the Hutti mine give evidence of the remarkable mining skill of the ancients, the auriferous chutes having here been followed downwards to a depth of no less than 540 feet. Another offshoot of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company according to the same authority was formed in 1898 to work the adjacent mines of Wundalli, and during 1899 crushed 18,790 tons of quartz for a yield of 7,822 ounces. During the years 1898 to 1900 the yield of gold in the Nizam's Dominions was almost exclusively the produce of the Wundalli Company. Work was, however, stopped at these mines towards the middle of 1900.

Only a short time back the French Academy of Sciences solemnly 'received' a new kind of potato from Uruguay, which is said to be an abnormal 'gigante' and is entirely disease-proof. Since then there have been rejoicing over the advent of a potato from South Africa, the stalks being jet black, while the flesh is a dark reddish brown, the flavour being same as that of the ordinary kinds. comes the Colonial Institute of Bordeaux shouting itself hoarse with the praises of yet another novelty—this time from French West Africa. It is of the sweet variety, and so large that one plant, raised in Bordeaux, has yielded over 10 lb. of tubers. But it is not only the tubers (which are pleasant as a table adjunct and an excellent and acceptable food for cattle) that are valuable. The leaves also, when cooked, are said to be delicious, having a flavour akin to that of spinach. The roots, again, contain a very large proportion (17 per cent.) of sugar—more than that in beetroot—and yield excellent alcohol. As this wonderful plant is found to flourish in the neighbourhood of Bordeaux, the local farmers are looking forward to 'a new era.' Let us hope they may not be disappointed.

Major Cleveland who was deputed from Poona as medical attendant to the Amir in October last is returning to India owing to the indisposition of Mrs. Cleveland.

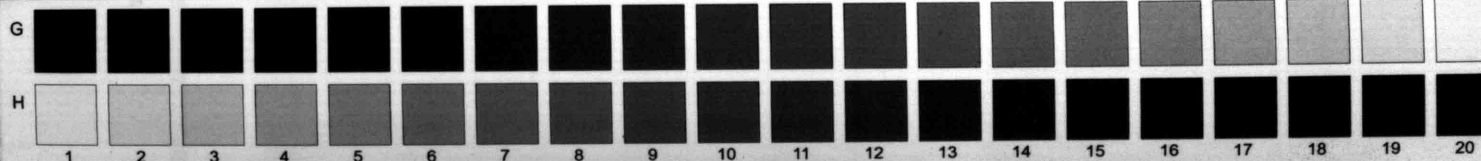
A Colombo correspondent writes under date February 25:—The pearl fishery, which started last Monday, has been very successful. The first week's fishing realized over five lakhs of rupees.

The Yokohama Chihio Sabansho, delivered judgment on the 25th January sentencing C. B. Collins, a British subject, to eleven years' confinement with hard labour for divulging military secrets to the enemy. The Court punishing the accused reported that the offence being of a most dangerous nature left no room for leniency. The accused subsequently appealed.

The following is the summary of Crops and weather, United Provinces for week ended at March:—Rain has fallen in 10 districts, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow in Almorah and hail in Saunapur. The weather is generally cloudy and unfavourable. Damage from rust is reported from Jhansi and Saunapur. Extra crops are being sown. Sugarcane pressing is in progress. Fodder is reported to be scarce in Almorah and Unao. Markets are well stocked but prices are still high.

The members of the various Cutchi communities of Bombay held a meeting on the 6th February when it was resolved to forward a second memorial to his Excellency the Viceroy regarding the memorial adopted at a specially convened public meeting held on the 16th day of March, 1902, praying for the immediate construction of the long-contemplated Bombay-Sind Connection Railway through Cutchi. The importance and necessity of this scheme, on strategic and commercial grounds, was acknowledged by the Government of India so far back as 1878, when the survey of the then contemplated line was carried out by the Government. The more difficult portion, between Mogul-bain and Butaj, via Lakhsat, was again re-surveyed in 1897-98, but for reasons unforeseen the project had since been allowed to remain in abeyance.

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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

Calcutta, March 9, 1905.

THE MYMENSINGH CONFERENCE.

A good deal of the energies of the promoters of the National Congress and the Provincial Conferences is taken up in selecting a President; and yet, we think this should be the least difficult part of the programme of their work. The general idea is that a President should be either a titled man, or who has the gift of eloquence,—but as the number of such persons is very limited, so, either we must make these few men preside over and over again, or recruit our Presidents from other classes of people. These latter have also their special merits, which entitle them to the respect of their countrymen; and though they may not be title-holders or good speakers, they have perhaps other qualities which compensate their shortcomings in these respects.

To our mind, any educated Indian who is a sincere patriot and has the esteem of his countrymen for his public spirit and irreproachable character is fit for the post of a Congress or a Conference President. Much unnecessary anxiety and waste of energy would be prevented if Presidents were chosen from among these classes of men. It would also bring to the front many men of solid judgment and ardent patriotism who have now no chance of displaying their talent and usefulness.

We have been led to the above observations by the troubles of the people of Mymensingh in securing a President for their Conference. They offered the post to two titled gentlemen; but the latter, for reasons best known to themselves, have not been able to accept the offer. We trust, our brethren of Mymensingh will not any more fritter away their energy in this way, but apply it exclusively to real work, and select a President from among the classes noted above. Indeed, any of the names we sent them would make a good President. As we pointed out the other day, their main duty is to create enthusiasm among the people of their own district by holding public meetings in all important centres, and making a permanent arrangement for the education of the masses through paid agents. We shall to-day lay before the public some of our ideas as to how these Provincial Conferences should be conducted and could be made really useful.

The Congress and the Provincial Conference should go hand in hand. These conferences, from one point of view, are, however, calculated to do even greater good than the Congress itself. The Congress can deal only with imperial questions. These questions being very large require incessant agitation for years before any result could be obtained. Take for instance the reform of the Legislative Councils. It has been the principal subject before the Congress. After twenty years' labour the Congress has not been able to get anything more than a mere shadow of the Representative Council.

Large questions are, however, not within the province of the Conference. It has not only to do with smaller matters, but with subjects which are pressing and concern the people immediately, and which can be easily understood by them. And as these questions do not involve any large policy of Government, the rulers may be induced by proper representation to listen to them and afford relief to the people in various matters. In short, the National Congress has to address not the Viceroy, nor the Secretary of State, nor even the British Parliament, but the thirty-five millions of English people; while the wishes of the Provincial Conference can be met, in most cases, by the local Governors, or even the District Magistrates.

It should also be borne in mind that, it is only the upper ten, or perhaps the upper five, of the educated Indian community who can be expected to take part in the Congress proceedings. But the entire people of a Province, high and low, rich and poor, may meet at a Conference, and discuss, in their own tongue, matters in which they are vitally and immediately interested.

By a few instances we shall show the nature of the work these Provincial Conferences should take up. Almost every man, except those few who live in Calcutta, pays the Road Cess. When this Cess was imposed the Government gave certain pledges in unequivocal language. Indeed, this Cess is guarded by so many distinct pledges that the Government cannot spend a pice of the Cess Fund for its own use without committing a breach of faith. It fetches nearly half a crore of rupees per annum. But where does this vast sum go?

People are dying by lakhs annually for want of good drinking water and medical help; and the Government threatens us every now and then with fresh taxation for averting these calamities. But the Road Cess was imposed for the specific purpose of meeting these and other local needs of the villagers. There is then the Choukidari Tax. A more cruel tax could not be conceived. The purposes for which this tax was imposed no longer exist. But we have allowed the Government to usurp both the Road Cess and the Choukidari Funds, which belong to the people, without a protest!

There is not a single political body in the country which has ever raised its voice against the manner in which the proceeds of the above taxes have been misappropriated. The Government is bound to relieve the people of the Choukidari Tax, or place its proceeds in the hands of the people, so that the Choukidars are the servants of the officials and not of the villagers. The Government is also bound to supply the people with drinking water, for the latter pay the Road Cess; but, though something like a water famine prevails in this province during the three or four hottest months of the year, Government will not meet this pressing need.

The Government cannot be blamed for appropriating all these Funds. Why should they not, if they were permitted to do it? It is all our own fault. The B-nazals have the reputation of being an intelligent nation. But they are really so very stupid that they are not even aware of the fact that there are at least two Funds in the Province which are their own, and which, if properly utilized, can remove many of their wants, and that but for their apathy the Government would have never encroached upon and applied them to Imperial purposes.

Then again, how many of us are aware of the deadly poison which the three measures, now before the Local Government, carry with them? The Local Self-Government Amendment Bill threatens not only to legalize all previous and future illegal applications of the Road Cess, but demolish the Sudder Local Board and thereby take away a number of elected members from the District Board, and impose a railway Cess upon land and a toll upon bridges. The proposed Rent Bill will widen the gulf between the landlords and the tenants still further and flood the country with ruinous litigation. And, lastly, the Jute Bill will destroy the jute industry, and do incalculable mischief to the ryots and the zemindars.

Now these are the subjects which ought to come before the Provincial Conference, and which, if taken up in a proper way, ought to make these bodies really useful. And imagine the importance of these subjects. If the Road Cess and the Choukidari Funds are set free and allowed to do their legitimate purposes, Bengal will practically be in a fair way to get rid of cholera and malarial fever, which have proved its deadliest enemies and decimated many of its fairest districts. The water-difficulties and the defective drainage question would also then be things of the past.

No agitation in right earnest has ever been made about these matters of supreme importance. The Zemindars, the middle classes, and the ryots are, every one of them, equally interested in them. Let them therefore unite, meet at the forthcoming Conference, and devise plans for agitating these questions in a systematic and sustained manner. Let them eschew all imperial topics and confine their attention to only half a dozen subjects of purely local character. This will arouse genuine enthusiasm among the masses. The people of Mymensingh have another question to take up in which they themselves are concerned. We mean, the proposed partition of their own district. They must enter a united protest against such a proposal: for, if they have now some strength it is, because, they are four millions strong, but they will lose all their prosperity and vitality if they allow themselves to be cut into two.

INSANE METHODS IN A SANE COUNTRY.

HOW DEPUTY MAGISTRATES ARE PUNISHED OR REWARDED.

It seems the Government permits District Magistrates to stab their judicial subordinates, the Deputy Magistrates, from behind their backs. Thus A. is a District Magistrate and B is his Deputy; A sends a secret report to the Government against B; and the Government, without asking B for an explanation, punishes him upon the strength of the secret, one-sided and untested accusation of his immediate superior. Is this not an extraordinary way of carrying on the administration of a country inhabited by a sober people, and not savages and mad men? This practice no doubt prevailed before, but not to the extent it does now. For, previously the Deputy Magistrates were almost as independent and as much respected as the Magistrates themselves.

That this method of rewarding or punishing public servants has a ridiculous side will strike many, and we are curious to know how does Government manage when it is confronted with contradictory reports. Thus how does the Government dispose of a case when one District Magistrate falls in love with a Deputy Magistrate at first sight, and another condemns him afterwards? We mention this because we shall presently cite a concrete instance of this nature.

The reader is aware that Babu Nabin Chander Sen, the poet, was a distinguished Deputy Magistrate. He suddenly found himself an object of tender regard of a distinguished though eccentric Civilian, Mr. Skrine. The latter, when he was transferred to a certain district, insisted that if he was to be transferred to such a place, he must have Babu Nabin Chander Sen by him.

After this incident, we happened to come across Babu Nabin Chander and asked him in all seriousness, whether we should congratulate him or not on his good luck. And sure enough Babu Nabin Chander himself did not know. If he had known what special merit in him had attracted the regard of Mr. Skrine for him he could have considered himself a lucky man. But he was quite in the dark; and, not knowing how he came to please him, it was impossible for him to keep alive the love which he had been able, so unaccountably, to inspire Mr. Skrine with.

Thus subordinate Magistrates do sometimes win the good opinion of their superiors in a mysterious way. Which proves that they must now and then also incur the displeasure of the latter in the same unaccountable manner. It proves further that in number of District Magistrates falling in love, without any visible cause, with their subordinates must be less than that of those who take a dislike towards them.

And will the reader be surprised to learn that it is the same fortunate Deputy Magistrate, Babu Nabin Chander Sen, who was suddenly and mysteriously put in the black book and all his future prospects were sought to be blasted? While all his juniors and inferiors were promoted, he was made to stick to the second grade, till, almost on the eve of his retirement, he obtained some measure of justice, having got a lift which was his due long ago.

Thus, in the beginning, he was affectionately hugged in the breast; then he was cast aside; and once again restored to his previous position. Verily the ways of the Government, like those of the Providence, are beyond the comprehension of ordinary folks. But, surely, the lot of the Government cannot be very enviable when it has to adopt these contradictory measures at the sweet will of the District Magistrates.

The following points now arise: (1) how does the Government manage when a District Magistrate falls in love with an inferior Deputy Magistrate and tries to heap favours upon him, sacrificing the interests of others, who are at least equally deserving as, if not more than, the favourites; and (2) how does the Government manage when another Magistrate unjustly shows dislike towards a subordinate?

We have furnished a concrete example to show that Magistrates do sometimes fall in love with their subordinates who are utter strangers to them. We have also furnished a similar example of the opposite kind. As for the Magistrates developing a dislike for his subordinates, it is scarcely necessary to furnish instances of this sort with the universally known couplet, which runs something like the following before us:

"I don't like thee, Dr. Fell,
Why, I cannot tell."

We thus see that the Government has to encounter and overcome several difficulties in carrying out this insane idea of punishing or rewarding Deputy Magistrates upon the strength of secret and one-sided reports sent against them by their official superiors. Then fancy the position of the Government when a Dy. Magistrate is condemned by one District Magistrate and praised by another! Thus Mr. Magistrate John reports against his subordinate Deputy Magistrate Babu C. But just then Mr. John is succeeded by Mr. James who, however, falls in love with Babu C. and sends a charming report praising the same Deputy whom his predecessor had damned. What does the Government do under such circumstances?

Here is another complication. Mr. A. is the Magistrate and Babu G. is the Deputy Magistrate under him. Mr. A. puts Babu G. in the black book when the former is suddenly transferred to another district and is succeeded by Mr. C. Now what Mr. A. finds blameworthy in Babu G. is believed to be praiseworthy by Mr. C. To make the position clear, let us suppose Mr. A. finds Babu G. a little slow, and so he records: "G. requires a little twisting of the tail." It so happens, however, that this alleged slowness, attributed to Babu G. by Mr. A., is considered a great merit by Mr. C. and, therefore, if Mr. A. says that Babu G. requires twisting of the tail, Mr. C. reports that Babu G. is a cautious man and never does things hurriedly. What does the Government do under the circumstance? Does it punish Babu G. for his alleged slowness or rewards him for his alleged "caution"? In short, what does the Government do when it receives two contradictory reports about Deputy Magistrates?

So Magistrates do not scruple now-a-days to liken their Deputies to cows and bullocks. Surely the latter were more respected by District Magistrates when the race of boy-Magistrates had not appeared in the field. What wonder that a boy-Magistrate, who has not yet been able to overcome his boyish and brutal instincts, should liken these Deputies, superior to them—as a rule—in every respect, to bullocks, who need the "twisting of the tail," for the purpose of making them move?

A Deputy Magistrate has to serve many Magistrates, and the likelihood is that he is praised by some and blamed by others; that if merits are fastened upon him by one they are denied by another; that if a Deputy Magistrate is considered slow by one he is praised as "cautious" by another; so the result is that the Government has to consider and dispose of contradictory reports against this class of public servants. Thus Babu K. at Bankura is considered "pampering and slow." When he is removed to Budwan he is put down for "a smart officer who need a good deal of watching." From the same district, another report is sent against him by another Magistrate, the successor of the District Officer who had called him "smart." This new Magistrate calls him "obstinate" and "devoid of common sense." With such reports of various sorts before it, what opinion does the Government form of the character of this Deputy Magistrate?

Perhaps Sir A. Fraser manages it very well. Perhaps His Honour can tell us how the following mixture tastes: take honey one ounce, sulphate of quinine, 25 grains, 12 grains of chili powder and half an ounce of Salt and mix all together.

INDIA'S DEBT TO AFGHANISTAN.

One of the great works in which Lord Curzon is just now engaged is to establish a permanent friendship with the Ameer of Afghanistan. It is thus that when Sirdar Inayat Ulla came here recently, he was given a most magnificent reception. It is also thus that a mission has been despatched to Cabul. This is all right, but the Indians have very little cause to be thankful to the Afghans. Max Muller in one of his books bitterly complains that the Hindus who lived a peaceful life and taught others to do it; who devoted their natural energies to the spiritualization of themselves and their fellows; and who spread the doctrine of brotherhood of man and fatherhood of God from one end of the world to the other should become in turn the slaves of others. Well, it happened in this wise.

The Hindus taught contemplation as the highest object of the existence of man, and they themselves sat to contemplate. While thus occupied in contemplation with their eyes shut, the barbarians of Persia and Afghanistan were engaged in sharpening their swords. The contemplative Hindus were at last roused from their deep samadhi or trance when they found the weapons of the Afghans sawing their throats. Of course the Hindus then opened their eyes and demanded an explanation for such "unbrotherly" conduct. But the Afghans had no notion of the philosophy of brotherhood of man; and they were not ashamed of the unbrotherly act of chopping off the heads of fellow-beings, who did them no harm, for filthy lucre. It was in this manner that the Hindus lost their independence.

Early British rulers, almost as soon as they had planted a footing in this country, sought to open negotiations with the rulers of Afghanistan, and the result was disastrous to the people of this country. The same result has always followed the attempt of the British authorities to make friends with the Afghans. We shall to-day notice one phase of these disastrous results. It will be remembered that Dost Mahomed Khan was brought to Calcutta: Here he was kept a State prisoner for a time; but, as he consumed a large quantity of mutton, the economical merchants, who then ruled the Empire, wisely thought that the best course for them would be to send him back home. So one day he was removed from Calcutta and taken to the Khyber Pass and there left to fend for himself.

Why Dost Mahomed was brought and why he was let go are proceedings enveloped in mystery. But ever since, the Government of India has been paying its debt to the Afghan nation. And how did the Government come to incur this debt? Well, it is surmised, the Government of India, in its previous birth, borrowed a fabulous amount of money from Afghanistan, which has yet remained unpaid, and it is now, by a curious law of nature, paying off that old debt! Indeed, it is by accepting the theory of re-birth only that we can explain this strange phenomenon.

The Government of India is strong and Afghanistan is weak. How is it then that the Government of India is feeding and nourishing these Afghans since the last sixty years?

We pay these men subsidies and they go against us. We supply them with arms and they turn them against us when the proper time comes! Yet we are subsidizing them and helping them to arm themselves from the soles of their feet to the crowns of their heads, suspecting all the time however, that they may go over to Russia and prove more formidable than if they were left alone! That is the fixed policy of the wise Government!

Does the reader know what a *Raj-shap* or King-snake is? The popular belief is that it opens its mouth and other snakes enter into it as if drawn in by an irresistible force. In the same manner, Afghanistan, like *Raj-shap*, opens its mouth, and an inexorable destiny compels Indian money to flow into its bottomless stomach! It is not enough that we should pay subsidies to the Afghans and facilitate the importation of arms into their country, but must also feed a large number of what we may call State-sons-in-law. These State-sons-in-law are the Afghan refugees, who are brought to this country, and allowed to live a life of indolence and ease, at the cost of the poor Indians.

Some of the arrangements of John Bull have a humorous side. John Bull is strong and loves to fight. He, therefore, is always in search of opportunities to quarrel. In India he finds no opponent and so he leaves the frontiers to find one beyond them. There he defeats his antagonist. When he has been able to do that he falls in love with his vanquished enemy. At least he feels that he owes something to the man who has furnished him with so exciting a sport. He then lifts up his fallen foe, gives him a warm embrace, and at last brings him, his family and retinue to India, and makes the Indians feed, clothe and keep them in luxurious idleness! If we have not to feed any vanquished Tibetans, it is, because, unlike the Afghans, they are no fighting people at all.

It is thus India has to feed John Bull's big games. The process began more than half a century ago, and it continues up till now. How much money has been, and is yet being, paid to these Afghan refugees is not known, and is not permitted to be made public. And what a happy life these Afghan sons-in-law of the Government lead! When a negro came back to his country (America) from England where he had gone with his master, he thus described the English society: He said that in England everybody works—man works, woman works, fire works, water works, coal works, dog works, horse works. It is the hog only who does no work but lives like a gentleman! In the same manner every one in India has to work—the Viceroy works, the Provincial rulers work, the Magistrate works, the ryot works—it is the Afghan refugees who only eat and fatten like gentlemen.

It was Lord Lansdowne who tried the policy of brag with the late Ameer. He got a humiliating rebuff for his pains. It was reported to the Government of India that Abdur Rahman had been behaving like a savage tyrant towards his people. Lord Lansdowne remonstrated and said that the Ameer should remember that he was an ally of a civilized Government and he must act like an enlightened ruler. Abdur Rahman retorted in effect that Lord Lansdowne might mind his own affairs and had no business to meddle with those of the Ameer. Since then, the policy of the Government has been, that of "conciliation," and Lord Curzon is also following the same. But what an Afghan Chief has to do to secure an honourable asylum in India and a handsome pension is to make some preparations for war, to preach a Jihad, and, if possible, to kill one or two English officers.

It seems that Mr. Justice Stephen of the Calcutta High Court does not share in the view of His Excellency Lord Curzon that the Westerners are more truthful than the Indians. While arguing the case of the Secretary of State for India in Council vs. Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Mr. Justice Stephen observed that the witnesses for the plaintiff had given false testimony and they were all Europeans. Upon this Mr. Justice Stephen interrupted the Counsel and inquired of him if Mr. Dunne's arguments did not practically mean that "the Western supremacy in matters of truth was not conspicuous, at all events in this particular case?" This happy allusion to the Hon'ble Judge was very much appreciated and enjoyed by those who were present in the Court. Indeed, the humour contained in the remark is inimitable.

A CORRESPONDENT has furnished us with the following information:—

The case which Mr. Carey, Magistrate of Hooghly brought against his Mali claiming damages amount to Rs. 210 for inconvenience and loss suffered by him for the sudden resignation of the gardener and which case was brought before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Holmwood the other day has seen further development. It will be remembered that a rule was issued upon Mr. Carey to show cause why the case should not be transferred from Hooghly to some other place. One of the grounds, and we think the chief ground, was that it was impossible for the Mali to obtain legal help at Hooghly. We now understand that a junior pleader of that bar has made an affidavit saying that he and other pleaders were willing to take up the case of the Mali if they were paid their usual fees and that they are still willing and ready to do so. What made the pleader to make an affidavit in a matter like this, is more than I can say. But it is quite evident that Mr. Carey if he chooses can utilise it for his own benefit. It is however a significant fact that only a junior pleader of one year's standing came forward to vindicate the independence of the bar, where many able men could be found to do the same.

We are deeply concerned to hear that a question of supreme importance will come before the next meeting of the Faculty of Arts. The precise nature of the question has not yet been decided, but its trend is to make the Entrance Examination so hard that it will be impossible for the vast majority of our students to pass it successfully. It is said that not only will the subjects of study be increased and made extremely difficult but the number of pass marks will be considerably augmented. In short, our Entrance examination will be far more difficult than even the Matriculation examination in English Universities, and most of our lads will be thus practically prevented from acquiring any College education whatever. A greater calamity than this cannot be conceived.

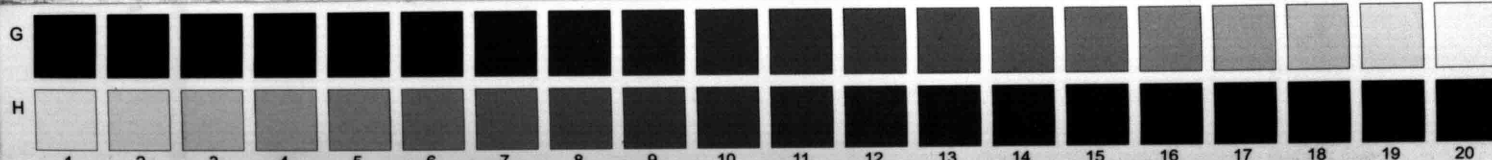
The "reformed" Indian Universities are making a name and a fame for themselves everywhere. Their doings in Bombay and Calcutta are now matters for history; for, the Universities Validation Act would always proclaim their glory and should therefore be recorded in golden letters. In Madras the prospects of a number of students have been ruined for ever by the action of the local University, because they made some mistake in stating their ages. And now information comes from Lahore that not only have two students of the local D.A.V. College been rusticated but the institution itself is threatened with disaffiliation if one of its Professors is not dismissed. An account of this extraordinary incident was published three or four days ago in these columns. The facts, briefly stated, are these. On the 20th of December last there was a football match between the students of the D.A.V. College and the local Christian College. There was a disturbance in which, it is alleged, some students and a Professor of the Christian College were hurt. It was arranged between the two College authorities that the matter should be enquired into by a joint committee of the representatives of both the institutions. The Punjab University Sports and Tournament Committee, however, prevented this amicable settlement of a private dispute by suddenly stepping in and appointing a Sub-Committee of its own for an enquiry and report. If this was an uncalculated interference, the manner in which the Sub-Committee was constituted was simply scandalous. Would it be believed that, though the dispute was between a Hindu and a Christian College, the Hindu element in the Committee was practically nowhere, there being only one Hindu in it against four Europeans and one Mussalman?

The Sub-Committee threw all the blame upon the students and a Professor of the D. A. V. College, though there was no evidence to show that the playing team was responsible for or took any part in the disturbance. As a matter of fact it was some spectators, among whom were two students of the D.A.V. College, who kicked up a row. And it was for the faults of these outsiders that the whole College was recommended for punishment! The D.A.V. College authorities submitted a protest to the Syndicate against the decision of the Sub-Committee, characterising it as utterly unreliable. They further pointed out that the Sporting Committee had no jurisdiction to interfere in the matter, and, therefore, the proceedings of its Sub-Committee were illegal from the beginning to end. The Syndicate, however, on the paid no heed to this representation; on the other hand, it accepted the recommendations of the Sub-Committee in their entirety and then debarred all the students of the D.A.V. College from future football tournaments and appointed a new Sub-Committee to report upon the conduct of the alleged offending Professor, threatening to take away his degree and disaffiliate the College if he is not removed from its staff!

But we have not yet told all. The meeting of the Syndicate which came to the above conclusion, was presided over by the Principal of the very Christian College who is a party to this dispute! So even all the deccency were over-stepped in the dure adopted in deciding the case. The Sub-Committee was composed of three Hindus, and only one Hindu was allowed to be present over to be presided over by the Principal of the Christian College. A for the capacity of the Sub-Committee and the Syndicate to come to a judicial decision the faculty found that the students of the D. A. V. College went to the tournament with the previous resolve of fomenting a quarrel on the unsupported statement of a cook of the Christian College, who was not examined before the Committee, formally examined before the Committee and who had heard of a coming great fight on the play ground from a brother! The value of the Report of the Committee upon which the Syndicate acted, is thus not worth the paper upon which it was written. We trust, the D. A. V. College authorities will take the help of the law court, if they are quite sure that the Sporting Committee had no locus standi in the matter. That the only remedy now left to them, though the Government may of course pass another Validation Act to legalize the illegal proceedings of the Sporting Committee and the Syndicate. Indeed why have the Government got a Legislature if not to make legal the illegalities of its pat officials and institutions? And the Punjab University will no doubt greatly advance the cause of high education if they can kill a flourishing institution like the D. A. V. College!

MR. TRIMBAK GONESH PARANJAPPE was lately an Extra Assistant Commissioner in Berar. After 29 years service in the Revenue and Judicial Departments, he was removed from service by a Government order of 24th September, 1903. The charge against him was that he had, in contravention of orders, acquired some landed property in the District to which he was attached and had, from time to time, made false declarations that he had not done so. It would appear from one of his memorials to Government that he was suddenly suspended for telegraphic order and kept under suspension for seven months in order that the charges against him might be formulated. When it appeared as if his case was being settled by correspondence, he appealed to His Excellency the Viceroy for an open enquiry; and when at last this was granted, the enquiry was not held under Act XXXVII of 1850, although being a gazetted officer, his case came within the purview of that Act. During the progress of this enquiry, he asked for but was refused copies of important papers relating to the case. Even a copy of the opinion of the investigating officer was in the first instance not granted to him. He had to apply once more for being furnished with this and other relevant papers and after considerable delay a copy of the report alone was granted to him.

REGARDING the merits, what had to be proved against Mr. Paranjappe, was that he had acquired lands "benami" in the name of one, who was once his cook, and that to conceal the real nature of the transaction, he had allowed them to remain in the name of his "quondam" cook during the latter's life time, and then after this man's death caused them to be transferred by his widow to one of his (Mr. Paranjappe's) friends, who in his turn transferred them to Mr. Paranjappe's wife, in whose name they now stand in the Government records. Now each of these facts has to be clearly established by positive evidence before Mr. Paranjappe



could be condemned. The investigating officer in his report however admits that "the only evidence of anything like a direct nature showing Mr. Paranjape had fields at Pala..... that given by Mr. Anant Rao." This is practically an admission that there is no direct evidence on the point except that of Mr. Anant Rao, with respect to which there is the further admission in the report that it is uncorroborated. Turning to this witness' evidence, one finds that all that he says is that during one rainy season, what year it was he could not remember, he had lent some bullocks to Mr. Paranjape for cultivation purposes and he then understood that Mr. Paranjape had lands at Pala. The witness has made a number of contradictory statements, which robs his evidence of all value. It is then on this most vague, inconclusive and unsatisfactory evidence taken along with certain circumstances characterised in the report as "of a very suspicious nature" that the finding against Mr. Paranjape rests. What these very suspicious circumstances are is not very clearly stated. It would then appear that on evidence which could not be believed in any court of justice, an officer of Government who had done 29 years' approved service, without a stain on his character, has been deprived of his bread and turned adrift in his old age at a time when he looked forward to retiring into private life on such pension as he might be entitled to under the rules.

There is the further consideration whether, even if the charge be held established, the punishment is not out of all proportion to the alleged offence. It is not shown or even alleged that Mr. Paranjape abused his official position and prestige to acquire the lands in question or that he used unfair means in the matter. Even if he has transgressed a departmental rule in so far as he acquired property in the District where he served without permission, he surely did not after 29 years' approved service and on the eve of his retirement deserve summary dismissal with the loss of his pension. The case is an extremely hard one and we may be permitted to hope that it will attract the attention of the Viceroy. His Excellency, we trust, will be graciously pleased to go through the papers of the case and do justice to the aggrieved officer who has served Government faithfully and with distinction all these 29 years, and who has been condemned without an iota of evidence against him.

Mr. Smith is at present the Deputy Director of the Agriculture Department, Bengal. He has been brought all the way from England and entrusted with some of the most important functions of the Department. His position is next to that of the Director of Agriculture, therefore superior to that of such veteran Indian officials as Messrs. D. N. Mukerjee, N. G. Mukerjee, N. N. Banerjee and a few others. Here is a curious situation. Mr. N. G. Mukerjee has seen some 14 years' service and the others mentioned above have also been serving Government for a long time. They have distinguished themselves, each in his way. What are then the superior merits of Mr. Smith, which entitle him to put over them? He can not be an expert, for we are told, he is only 24 or 25 years of age. As for his knowledge, we know nothing. But we are assured that he is a Cirencoire graduate. What we thus find is that a youth, who can never be called an experienced expert, and who is not a graduate of the Cirencoire College, has been imported from England on a big salary to control and supervise the work of Indians, who have not only far greater experience and knowledge of Indian agriculture than he has, but were trained in the best Agricultural Colleges in England. So, like others, the Agricultural Department is becoming a close preserve for the Whites. If boy-Magistrates are imported from England to lord it over able and experienced Deputy Magistrates, why should not the same procedure be adopted in the case of the Indian veterans in the department of Agriculture?

We all know now a Sub-Magistrate of the district who had to apologise to a Police Officer because of some statement he had passed in his judgment about the conduct of the police in connection with a case. Recently, a Subordinate Magistrate was nominated in a similar way, as he had to submit an explanation to a Police Inspector for arresting a Constable for contempt of court under the following circumstances. An order for the arrest of one Mohamed Din had been issued by the Police Inspector to a Constable. The accused bearing insult and humiliation at the hands of the police came to the court on the date of the hearing of his case with his pleader Mr. McDonald. There he was confronted by the constable, who tried to arrest and handcuff the accused. In the course of the scuffle that followed, Mohamed got away from the Constable with the loss of his coat and was actually pursued into the Magistrate's court by the latter, who still persisted in his attempt to handcuff the accused. The Magistrate strongly disapproved of the action of the Constable, whom he arrested for contempt of court and kept him for sometime in the lock-up. And now to the sequel of the case. The Subordinate Magistrate considered the "dhat" gone after the way a Police Constable was treated by the Magistrate in question. So the whole judicial and executive machinery was set in motion for the restoration of the lost prestige. The investigating Police officer, as we said above, called for an explanation from the trying Magistrate as to why the Constable had been sent to jail. The Magistrate at first refused to give any reply, but afterwards he had to give one, though we are not told what it was. And no wonder; for we are told by the "Panjab" that the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police live in the same house. But the matter did not end here. Criminal proceedings were instituted both against Mohamed Din and his pleader, Mr. McDonald. But the case ended in a failure. The trying Magistrate, while discharging both the accused thus observed:

"As regards Mr. McDonald's action all that is alleged against him is that he put out a hand to restrain the constable, and if this version is true I am of opinion that there was a good deal of reason to try and make that official exercise of his power of arrest in a more sensible way and persuade him that all that was necessary in the circumstances was for him to walk with Mohamed Din quietly into Court. It was not as if Mohamed Din was a notorious or dangerous criminal. He was a Government servant and

only ten yards away from the Court. However Mr. McDonald states that he is unaware of having obstructed the constable, and if he did so it was unintentional. I do not think that the facts in this case warrant any further trial, a very technical offence may have been committed by Mohamed Din in trying to evade the imposition of handcuffs, but I do not think the constable should have attempted this form of arrest in the circumstances and I do not believe the evidence that there was any actual assault on the constable. I therefore order the discharge of the accused."

So, in the Panjab, even a European pleader is no match for a Constable!

Both Maharajah Soorjakanta Acharye and Kumar Mammoth Nath Rai Choudhry recently expressed their views on the sea voyage question. In West Bengal there is no longer any necessity for such a reform; for all Europe-returned Hindus are gladly admitted into Hindu society if they go through certain ceremonies ordained by Shastris. In East Bengal, however, the feeling against "the crossing of black water" is still strong, and both Kumar Mammoth and Maharajah Soorja Kanta belong to Mymensingh. Kumar Mammoth has addressed a long letter on the subject to the Secretaries of the District Scientific and Industrial Committees, and we dare say they will try to profit by his suggestions. What he urges is that unless they ensure the re-admission into Hindu society of the students, sent out to foreign countries to acquire scientific and industrial knowledge and training, on their return home, the movement they have started for reviving industrial arts in this country, will fail. This is excellent advice, and we have no doubt, these young men will experience no difficulty of the kind feared by Kumar Mammoth. Kumar Mammoth's letter is able and interesting and will repay perusal.

A few days ago, we suggested that Indians should emigrate in large numbers to South Africa and the British Colonies. In South Africa the Indians would not only earn a good and decent living but also learn how to show manliness which they are losing in their own country, thanks to the policy of emasculation pursued by our rulers! Sir Horace Tozer, Agent-General for Queensland, has also suggested Indian emigration to Australia on account of its lack of population and also on account of the facilities given by the Australian Government to the immigrants. Mr. James Edmond, editor of the famous Sydney "Bulletin," who is now staying in Calcutta, has made another suggestion on the question of Indian emigration. In a vigorously written letter, published in the "Indian Daily News," Mr. Edmond has taken objection to Indians migrating to Australia. He suggests that Indians should migrate to Ireland, which is steadily becoming depopulated or the Scotch Highlands, where progress is nil. According to the Sydney editor, Ireland is in need of "coloured immigration," and he concludes his long letter with the following appeal:—"Will any philanthropic Englishman join me in a movement for promoting Afghan or Baluch emigration to Ireland?" May we ask one question to Mr. Edmond.—Why is Ireland becoming depopulated? We all know that the Irish have migrated in large numbers to America. Half the Boer population in Natal and the Transvaal are of Irish extraction and in nearly every British colony the bulk of the white population is comprised of Irishmen. Is not this above fact mainly responsible for the depopulation of Ireland? When the children of the soil are leaving their hearth and home and everything dear in life to find a place of living in other countries, why should the people of India go and live there? By the bye, why have the Irish left and are leaving their own mother-land and migrated or are finding new homes in other countries? Is it due to Irish misgovernment or some other cause not yet known? Englishmen are trying to people Ireland with the surplus population of Afghanistan and Beluchistan. But they should remember that if the Irish are hostile neighbours the turbulent spirit of the Afghans and the Beluchis will soon be felt and the situation will be worse than what it is now. Mr. Edmond ought to have taken all circumstances into consideration before making his suggestion.

Mr. WEBSTER, the District Judge of Mymensingh, made the following observation in his judgment, on an appeal case:—"It has been argued that it is very unlikely that the two appellants should have gone together to commit adultery with a woman of low caste in the presence of her cousin and cousin's wife. I do not think it is safe to assume that such a thing is improbable in this district." As is to be expected, the unwarrantable remark has given offence to the Mymensingh public.

The sensational Jaunpur case, proceedings of which appeared in these columns, has come to an abrupt end by the exertions of the Commissioner of the Benares Division. The District Magistrate, the Commissioner, the parties and other Shia landholders met together and terms were drawn up by the Magistrate. The accused took some objections and the draft was amended and at last it was filed on the 17th ultimo, though the date fixed for hearing was the 27th idem. It will be remembered that this case was the outcome of a dispute between the Shias and the Sunnis. The actual prosecutor was the crown, but the Sunni subordinate officials took more than ordinary interest in prosecuting a Shia Mauvi. But there is one thing in connection with this case which is worth recording. The District Magistrate was himself the prosecutor, he tried the case and he proposed the terms of settlement. A unique combination of multifarious functions in one and the same person!

The Provisional Congress Committee at Benares, the place where the next Congress will meet, has begun work in right earnest. The Committee has elected Pandit Bishan Narayan Das as the delegate on behalf of the United Provinces to join the Congress deputation to England. We understand that a suitable site has already been selected and the Committee has issued circular letters inviting the attention of the leading men of the province for forming the Reception Committee. We also understand that a public meeting will be held at Benares on the 19th instants to form Reception and Exhibition Committees. It will really be a most welcome news to all connected with the Congress work that the Provisional Committee has decided to issue a monthly Congress Bulletin containing all the news about Congress and Exhibition works, acknowledgment of subscriptions and accounts of disbursement. This is a move in the right direction and we congratulate the Committee and specially Messrs Madho Lal and Chahmru Lal, the President and Secretary respectively on their wise decision.

ANGLIO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, Feb. 17.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK.

"All noble souls through dust and heat
Rise from a sinner and defeat the stranger;
And conscious still of the divine
Within them, lie on earth supine no longer."

—LONGFELLOW.

"There is no wealth but Life. Life, including all its powers of love, of joy, and of admiration. That country is the richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings; that man the richest who, having perfected the functions of his own life to the utmost, has also the widest helpful influence, both personal, and by means of his possessions, over the lives of others."

—RUSKIN.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Last Tuesday the legislative machine of Great Britain and Ireland got to work once more. Parliament was opened in State by the King, who rode to Westminster in the Cinderella coach of which I have already written in these Letters, and he was accompanied by the beautiful Queen whose presence renders the gilded coach, its glass panels and its antique decorations more like a fairy tale than ever. A mild morning and bursts of sunshine drew thousands and thousands of spectators to the Park or to Whitehall to see the procession. For a glimpse of the King and Queen in the wondrous old State Coach Londoners, young and old, will wait with patience for hours. The cheering begins when Their Majesties emerge from the Palace and continue until they disappear under the great Tower through which only the Sovereign and his immediate suite may pass. Military uniforms, peers and peeresses in robes of State, Ambassadors glittering with decorations, the regalia, and all the pomp and circumstance of royal dignity render the scene in the House of Lords particularly dazzling, if brief. Certainly on Tuesday the crowds outside the Houses of Parliament did not have more than half an hour to wait before the King and his royal Consort appeared again after the ceremony. The escort of Household Cavalry, the cream ponies, in gorgeous trappings of royal purple and gold, the Yeomen of the Guard, and the troops lining the route, as well as the military bands at intervals between the Palace and Westminster are all part of the show which London goes forth to see. On Tuesday no rain quenched the enthusiasm of the patient sight-seers, and Their Majesties seemed genuinely touched by the devotion and loyalty displayed.

But, the pomp and ceremony over, serious work begins, and to that the attention of Indian readers must be directed. The "sticking-to-office Government" is determined to stay on as long as it can; the other day it was reported that the Prime Minister had declared that a "snap" division in which the Government might be defeated would not involve its resignation. He did not happen to mention that the last Liberal Government was beaten on a "snap" division on the subject of the amount of cordite in store, and resigned at once. However, later news says that Mr. Balfour made no such remark about "snap" divisions; he does not regard the Government's defeat as at all likely in any division whatsoever. Last night he obtained a majority of 63 or Mr. Asquith's amendment calling for an appeal to the country on the fiscal question, and is accordingly strengthened in his belief in the solidity of his party. Those who are inclined to forecast coming events are wary in pronouncing a definite opinion as to the life of the present Government. It is always the unexpected that happens, and Mr. Balfour has managed most dexterously to keep in office when it seemed impossible to do so that we may be sure he will continue these tactics up to the latest possible moment. Mr. Chamberlain, in his speech yesterday, declared that a dissolution had no terrors for him; that he did not mind how soon it came; but that the Government were not at all obliged to resign office because the Opposition considered that they should do so. The trial of the Redistribution of Seats legislation is drawn across the fiscal controversy, but it is more than doubtful whether real legislation will be carried through.

India has been fairly well to the front both as regards Questions and Motions, and promises to continue to hold a good position in this respect. Mr. Samuel Smith has amendment on the paper asking for opportunities during each session for the full discussion of Indian affairs on the ground of "the great importance of Indian questions and the desire of the Indian people to lay their grievances, their sufferings, their aspirations before Parliament and to ask for improvements in the administration of their country." Mr. Schwann, too, has an amendment to the Address representing to His Majesty that "with a view to the more effectual control by Parliament of Indian affairs, it is desirable that the customary periodical enquiry into the administration of India should be revived; and that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the British Estimates. Another Amendment is that of Mr. Ian Malcolm, who describes the publication of the recent Blue Book on Tibet as "mischievous and ill-judged, calculated to diminish the dignity and security of future British Commissioners despatched abroad on Imperial business, and to undermine the general confidence in the wisdom of the India Office." Mr. Malcolm, it is stated, intends to do all he can to get the matter discussed in the House, but whether his amendment will be slaughtered with the innocents, as is usually the case with those questions left over when the debate on the Address has lasted a week or more, remains to be seen. It would be a great thing for India if Mr. Smith's and Mr. Schwann's Motions could come before the House. Mr. Herbert Roberts's Motion regarding the Tibet Mission must not be omitted here. The hon. Member points out that the expedition was not necessary for the protection or benefit of Indian interests, and therefore a substantial portion of the cost should be defrayed by the British Treasury. Similar statements have been embodied in by Mr. Broca, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. Weir, but to each one Mr. Brodrick returned the one answer: India will pay. The old tale—India did not call the tune; it was Lord Curzon's tune; but she must needs pay the piper because she sways her destinies.

Mr. Schwann, in a question regarding the investigation of Mr. Tilak's case, received the information that Police reports are privileged documents and cannot be communicated to the public nor laid upon the Table of the House. Mr. Weir, enquiring about the publication of the long-delayed Police Report, was told that the Government of India is expected to publish a comprehensive resolution on the subject and the conclusions arrived at. Mr. Brodrick will then communicate papers to Parliament. Mr. Swift MacNeill's question as to whether the Viceroy's action in refusing to receive a copy of the Congress resolutions at the hands of Sir Henry Cotton had the approval of the Imperial Government, was answered orally, and is not reported in this morning's papers. Next week I shall be able to send the reply. For next week, too, some important questions are already on the Paper. Mr. Weir will ask for statistics in reference to the prevalence of cancer in India; Mr. Herbert Roberts asks whether the Government of India have taken steps to carry out the separation of judicial and executive functions; Mr. Samuel Smith brings forward the conditions under which the employees of the sea post office work between Aden and Bombay, and next Thursday Mr. Weir is to ask the Secretary of State if he will consider the expediency of recommending the Governor General of India in Council to endeavour to arrange for the abolition or further reduction of the Salt Tax. Also the same hon. Member desires information on the precise character of the irrigation scheme recently sanctioned, and the date when work is likely to be commenced."

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST SIR ANTONY MACDONNELL.

With the opening of Parliament the campaign against Sir Antony Macdonnell has revived with especial force. His name was one which galvanised the last Indian Budget Debate into something like life and aroused protests from the Ulster Unionists against his being "lent" to the Irish Government. They would fain have had him "returned with thanks," and without delay, to the India Office and his seat on the India Council. But since that August day, 1904, Sir Antony has resigned his position at the India Office, and has devoted his undoubted energies to the service of his country, Ireland. The new session of Parliament is only a few days old, but already Sir Antony has been one of the principal figures brought on to the Parliamentary stage. Questions have been asked with regard to his position at Dublin Castle, and he himself was present in the House of Commons to hear what took place. The crime of the ex-Indian administrator is, in the eyes of the Ulster Unionists, that he is an Irishman, a Home Ruler and is likely to profit by his official position as Under-Secretary of State for Ireland to promote the nationalist cause. In this conception of Sir Antony the Members of Parliament are supported by certain of the Tory journals, and it is rumoured that he has become a serious bone of contention to the Cabinet. It is even stated that Sir Antony is only kept in his present position through the influence of Lord Lansdowne who learned to value his administrative capabilities when in India. According to the report, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has taken a strong stand on the matter, and intimates that if any change is made with regard to Sir Antony's position, he himself will be compelled to review his relations with Mr. Balfour's Cabinet. The Viceroy, Lord Dufferin, is also one of Sir Antony's staunch supporters, and this evening's debate in the House of Lords, when Lord Dufferin will raise the question of the Government's acquiescence in the strictures recently passed on Sir Antony by Sir Edward Carson at Manchester will probably throw more light on the position and the attitude of the Viceroy. Mr. Wyndham appears to have thrown over his Under-Secretary, for he intimated yesterday in the House of Commons that Sir Antony's appointment to Dublin Castle was not permanent, but it was "impossible to state the precise date of the completion" of his services.

What has formed the latest peg on which the Ulster Unionists hang their indictment is the participation of Sir Antony, as an official, in the unofficial Devolution scheme for Ireland which Lord Dufferin has brought forward. It was on this point that Mr. Wyndham was fiercely interrogated yesterday: had Sir Antony any part in the evolution of the scheme, did Mr. Wyndham know of his association with Lord Dufferin, what did the Government think of the case, and was Sir Antony's appointment permanent? Mr. Wyndham's reply was a lengthy one and studiously scrupulous in its phrasing. It was as follows according to the "Times."

"Mr. Wyndham (Dover).—Sir Antony Macdonnell, in response to a request from Lord Dufferin, assisted him in discussing and forulating these proposals, which Sir Antony erroneously, but honestly, believed to be within Unionist principles. (Nationalist laughter, joined in by Ulster members below the gangway.) (The Government hold that such proposals, embracing as they do the creation of a financial board and the delegation of legislative powers other than for private Bills, are altogether inadmissible. I understand that the two proposals I have named were discussed for the first time by Sir Antony Macdonnell with Lord Dufferin in August or September last. Sir Antony, I know, has discussed other matters at earlier dates with Lord Dufferin, and there is no reason why he should not have done so. (Nationalist cheers.) I saw these proposals for the first time in the "Times" newspaper of September 26 last, and immediately expressed my total dissent from them. Sir Antony Macdonnell, at once wrote to Lord Dufferin stating that he could have no further communications with him in connexion with the programme of the Reform Association. The matter was considered by the Cabinet and the Government expressed through me their view that the action of Sir Antony Macdonnell was indefensible. (Cheers from below the gangway.) But they authorized me to add that they were thoroughly satisfied that his conduct was not open to the imputation of disloyalty. (Laughter.) Sir Antony Macdonnell undertook the office of Under-Secretary at my special request, and without any intention of permanently devoting to Ireland the administrative talents which have won him so high a place among Indian officials. It was in the full knowledge of this fact that his services were adopted; but it is obviously impossible to state the precise date of their completion."

All the newspapers this morning contain notes concerning the matter. Mr. Massingham, in the "Daily News," devotes nearly a column of his "Pictures in Parliament" to a discussion of the case, and concludes by

saying that as Sir Antony's appointment was special "it remains to be seen what kind of work he was given to do and whether he has exceeded his instructions." In addition to the matter being raised in the House of Lords this evening, Mr. Wm. Moore has given notice of another question for Monday; he will ask Mr. Wyndham whether Sir Antony was aware, before assisting in the preparation of the Devolution scheme, that it was against the rules for a Civil Servant to take part in political propaganda, and whether his superiors knew of his intention to do so? The Ulster Unionists have declared their intention to abstain from voting on Mr. Redmond's Home Rule amendment which will come on on Monday.

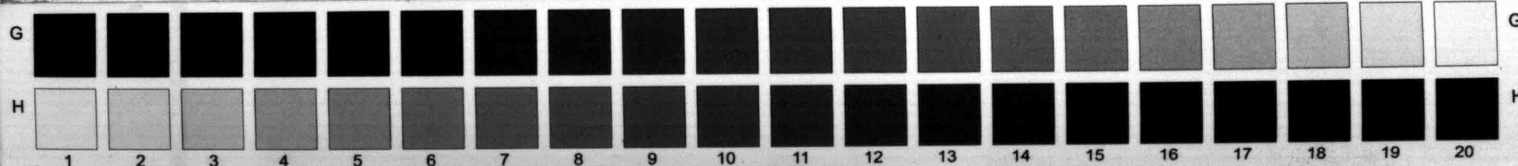
Readers of the "Patrika" will see that a very determined campaign is being carried on against a distinguished ex-administrator of India. No one who knows Sir Antony can entertain the slightest doubt of his absolute honesty of purpose not his sense of the responsibility that appertains to public office; but they also know that he is not the sort of man to be honoured down, and even Ulster Unionists will find him a formidable opponent. Of course, circumstances may make it necessary for him to tender his resignation, but before such a step is taken Mr. Balfour will have to consider whether he can brave friction, if not rupture, with Lord Lansdowne and Lord Dufferin. It seems that the only officials who are suitable for Dublin are those who will obediently carry out the policy of the Unionists at Westminster. Ireland cannot have independence of thought and action; that would lead too dangerously near to Home Rule, and such a possibility, in spite of the grievances of Ireland, will not for one moment be tolerated by the Government in power. So Sir Henry Cotton and the Indian National Congress may find some slight consolation in the similarity between the Irish case and their own. Lord Curzon refused to receive Sir Henry as Chairman of the Congress, but his action will probably do more to strengthen the hands of the Congress than any courtesy he might have shown them. The sequel of the agitation against Sir Antony Macdonnell will be watched with interest in India; it may quite possibly end in his taking his seat at Westminster as a Nationalist Member of Parliament.

PLAYING WITH DANGER: THE AFGHAN MISSIONS.

Mr. Brodrick has informed Mr. Herbert Roberts in the House of Commons that it is not in the interests of the public to make any statement with regard to the Kabul Mission. By cable yesterday we learned that the Amir's son, returning to his own country full of wonderment and deeply impressed by his visit to India, narrowly escaped death owing to the severity of the weather in the mountain passes of the Afghan borderland. His escort was sufficient to keep him out of any danger that might arise because of the uncontrollable tribes of the frontier, but they could not contend against the forces of Nature. A number of deaths actually occurred, and the supplies were in danger of running out. This news adds weight to the very important pronouncement of so great an authority as Colonel Hanna who, in an article published in the "Manchester Guardian," dealt with the two Missions in a very forcible manner. His statements regarding the danger of "improving our relations with Afghanistan" have moved both the "Manchester Guardian" and the "Daily News" to comment editorially on the situation. No doubt Col. Hanna and the two journals in question will be dubbed Little Englanders, but such reproaches affect them not because they see how dangerous it is to pursue a policy which, but a generation ago, was fraught with such disastrous consequences. This note of warning cannot be too loudly sounded in the public ear.

Another notable authority on North-West Frontier matters, Col. Sir Thomas Holdich, declared not long ago that the best way to gain the confidence of the Amir was that England and Russia should come to a mutual understanding with regard to their Asiatic possessions. Having had close and practically unique relations with Russian officials in frontier matters, Sir Thomas is never tired of urging the advisability of a peaceful agreement rather than the present state of nervous excitement and apprehension. If the Amir could see that neither of the Great Powers was desirous to seize his country in order to come to blows, he would be more likely to reconsider his inherited opposition to the introduction of railways into Afghanistan. In the present state of affairs the experiences of the Amir's son in travelling from India to Afghanistan under the most favourable conditions point to the terrible odds that would probably have to be faced by an army on the march. Colonel Hanna declares that the Afghan war of some thirty years ago serves to rediscover three important truths which are to-day in danger of being forgotten again. These truths are emphasised by names which carry weight. Here are his words: "the first, no province of Afghanistan is rich enough to feed an alien army of twenty thousand men (Sir Donald Stewart); the second, the less the Afghans see of us, their British neighbours, the less they will dislike us (Lord Roberts); the third in a struggle between the two great European Empires in Asia the winning side will be the one which refrains from entangling itself in the barren mountain passes, that now separate them (Lord Lawrence, emphatically confirmed by Lord Roberts in his despatch of the 24th of May, 1880.)"

With regard to the extension of Indian railways, this experienced writer intimates that the news which has been allowed to appear in the public press concerning the Amir's desire for a strip of country for a railway to the Persian Gulf and a port thereon may perhaps be looked upon somewhat in the light of a sop in return for which he will grant permission for the building of railways in Afghanistan. For long the eyes of the rulers of Afghanistan have been turned eagerly to the sandy deserts of Baluchistan with a view to increasing the prosperity of the country through access to the sea. If the extension of the Indian railway systems to Kandahar and Kabul be indeed one of the proposals which Mr. Dana has to lay before the Amir, "it is as certain," says Col. Hanna, "to lead to a third Afghan war as was Lord Lytton's insistence on the substitution of a British for a native envoy in Afghanistan to bring about the second." But, granted the permission to extend the railways, how would they be built, asks the Colonel? "With British capital, by British engineers. Who would work them? British officials. Who protect them? British troops, the first step would have been taken towards the



THE UNREST IN RUSSIA.

London, Mar. 3. The group of Ministers engaged in drafting a constitution have fallen into disfavour and the reactionaries have regained the ear of the Tsar who has issued a manifesto reaffirming autocracy and appealing to the whole nation to unite against internal enemies and an obstinate foreign foe.

London, Mar. 4. The Tsar has addressed a rescript to the Minister of the Interior in which he says that he is resolved to convene the worthiest men in the Empire elected by the people to participate in legislation, though it is necessary to preserve absolutely the immutability of the fundamental laws of the Empire.

London, Mar. 4. The strike affects every trade at Warsaw. The strikers are assuming a threatening demeanour using revolvers and bombs and unless the Government can force the gammen to resume work, the city will be in darkness on Sunday.

London, Mar. 4. The Tsar's manifesto has had a bad effect and the authorities are hastily concentrating troops at Warsaw and Lodz.

London, Mar. 4. After yesterday morning's manifesto the Russian public was astonished by the publication yesterday evening of a rescript intimating the Tsar's intention to summon some form of elective assembly to participate in legislation. The newspapers express great satisfaction but the public generally hesitate awaiting developments.

London, Mar. 4. A state of siege has been proclaimed in the Province of Baku.

London, Mar. 4. The strike of gas workers at Warsaw has ended.

London, Mar. 5. The strikes have increased at St. Petersburg and 51,000 men are now out. Yesterday passed quietly.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

London, Mar. 3. Rumours are current that Mukden is being evacuated.

London, Mar. 3. Reuter wires from Tientsin that four hundred Japanese cavalry have raided Simming. There are ten thousand Japanese along the Kaopon-se line, which it is expected the Japanese will seize on the ground that the land has ceased to be neutral. This raid, in conjunction with the advance of the Japanese left, is considered to indicate that Manchurian armies are enveloping both Mukden and Liang-shan, while holding the centre.

London, Mar. 4. Correspondents at the front, indicate a great combined movement of the army appears to be succeeding in the west. Four Japanese divisions have eleven miles westward of Mukden and the Russian right is turned. A most terrible bombardment with a hundred of the big guns is concentrated against the Russian position on the right. The Japanese have made great gains on the Russian left by night advances.

London, Mar. 4. Reuter's correspondent writes that the Japanese have captured the town of Ussuriysk and that the Japanese have made great gains on the Russian left by night advances.

London, Mar. 4. General Kuropatkin reports loss of part of the Gaoching defenses on the 2nd instant. The attack was continued yesterday. Fighting on the left flank was generally most severe and desperate. The Japanese attacks were repulsed again and again and in some places the enemy made ramparts of their own dead. Over twenty Japanese battalions were yesterday repulsed at Liao-shan with terrible losses. Reuter at Tokio says that the fighting continues fiercely. Today the entire front of the Japanese is steadily gaining ground.

London, Mar. 4. The British claim for the North Sea indemnity has been presented and amounts to sixty five thousand pounds.

London, Mar. 4. A despatch from Vladivostok states that two thousand Japanese have landed at Sheng-shan, northwards of Korea.

London, Mar. 4. General Oku has captured nine miles of position on the Russian right.

London, Mar. 4. St. Petersburg telegrams state that the Japanese furiously assailed the Russian centre twice, and advanced to storm Puti-loff Hill but were twice driven back with heavy losses. General Kuropatkin reports that it is holding, the Japanese at bay and recapturing some of the positions from which he had previously been driven. He asserts that he has inflicted enormous losses on the Japanese at several points.

London, Mar. 4. Reuter wires from Tokio that many of the Russian positions are so strongly fortified that the siege methods are necessary for their capture.

The Russians on the right bank of the Hunho have delivered heavy counter-attacks which have been repulsed. General Oku has occupied important position at Changtau.

London, Mar. 6. Kuropatkin reports that the advanced guard of Japanese, who are surrounding over right flank, arrived on the 4th, five miles from Mukden station, in the direction of the Simming road.

Reuter's correspondent at Mukden, says the sudden appearance of Nogus troops from the direction of Liao-ho and Simming has completely surprised the Russians. Mukden is thrown into confusion and the streets and outlying roads are crowded with transport and troops hastily assembling to oppose Nogi. It is feared a formidable force of Japanese is en route from Tiching. The battle with Nogi was renewed on the afternoon of the 4th, notwithstanding the terrible work of the past three days. The troops have not tasted food for two days.

London, Mar. 6. A "Daily Mail" telegram from Hong-kong states that two Japanese squadrons of twenty-two warships altogether, including battleships, have been sighted hundred miles south of Hongkong.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

E. B. S. Ry.—Mr. J. Manson, Manager, Eastern Bengal State Railway, is granted combined leave for 7 months (privilege leave for 3 months and furlough for 4 months) with effect from the 28th March 1905.

Promotion.—The following permanent promotion in the Superior Establishment of the Telegraph Department is sanctioned, Babu Sunder Singh, Assistant Superintendent, 3rd grade, is appointed Assistant Superintendent, 2nd grade.

The Kachalanga Shooting Case.—The "Jyoti" reports that the case in which Babu Sarat Chandra Guha, Acting Forester of Kachalanga, and Guard Kasi Mohan Day killed one and wounded several Jumbas by firing a gun at them came up before the Commissioner, who presides over the Hill Tracts Sessions, the other day. The Judge disbelieved the prosecution story and acquitted Kasi Mohan, the Forester being still at large.

Notaries Public.—The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Notaries Public and to exercise their functions as such within the districts mentioned against their names:—Babu Debi Prasad, Pleader, Babu Kedar Nath Guha, Pleader, vice Mr. J. Dacosta, and Babu Mohendro Nath Banerjee, deceased, Bhagalpur district; and Babu Narain Das, Pleader, Babu Gopal Chandra Shome, Pleader, vice Babu Olkil Chunder Mullick, and Babu Dhiraj Karan, deceased, Monohyr district.

Finance Department.—The following acting appointments are made during Mr. Stewart-Wilson's (Postmaster-General, Punjab) absence on leave. Mr. W. Maxwell, I.C.S., Deputy Director-General, Post Office, to officiate in the 1st grade of Postmasters-General, and Mr. A. H. A. Simcox, I.C.S., to officiate as Postmaster-General, Punjab, and in the 2nd grade of Postmasters-General. The following reversion in the Account Department during the month of February 1905, is notified:—Mr. J. Davidson to officiate in Class VI, instead of in Class V, of the Enrolled List.

Postal.—Mr. W. A. Sutherland, Superintendent, R.M.S., is granted privilege leave for three months. The following officiating appointments are made during his absence on privilege leave or until further orders:—Rai Saligram Bahadur, Superintendent, R.M.S., 3rd grade, to act in the 2nd grade; Mr. F. J. Baker, Superintendent, R.M.S., 4th grade, to act in the 3rd grade; Mr. E. M. Duhan, Superintendent, R.M.S., 5th grade, to act in the 4th grade; and Babu Braj Bhushan Lall, B.A., to act as Superintendent, Railway Mail Service, 5th grade. Mr. J. S. Goss, officiating Postmaster, Agra, is granted privilege leave for one month. Babu Kalicharan is appointed to act as Postmaster, Agra, during the absence of Mr. J. S. Goss.

Railway.—With reference to Railway Board Circular No. 6, dated the 3rd March 1905, the following officiating appointments are made until further orders:—Mr. J. C. Mills, Deputy Manager, Eastern Bengal State Railway, to officiate as Manager of that Railway. Major W. J. McPherson, R.E., Officiating Deputy Traffic Superintendent, Eastern Bengal State Railway, to officiate as Deputy Manager on that Railway. Mr. T. G. Acres, District Traffic Superintendent, of the Superior Revenue Establishment of State Railways, to officiate as Deputy Traffic Superintendent, Eastern Bengal State Railway. Mr. E. F. Jacob, C. I. E., Traffic Superintendent, North Western Railway, is appointed to officiate as Manager of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway during the absence of Mr. H. P. Burt, on leave.

Calcutta Mortality.—The total number of deaths registered in Calcutta during the week ending 25th February was 623 against 546 and 635 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 42. There were 15 deaths from cholera, against 24 and 37 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 66. There were 130 deaths from plague, against 88 and 106 in the two preceding weeks. There were seven deaths from small-pox during the week against three in the previous week. There were 20 deaths from tetanus against 20 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 120 and 57, respectively, against 109 and 58 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 38.2 per mille per annum, against 55.2 the mean of the last five years.

Suit for Slander.—At the High Court on Saturday before Mr. Justice Sale, Mr. Walter Gregory, instructed by Messrs. Sanderson and Co., applied on behalf of the defendant in the suit of Mrs. Rose Mary Moll vs. Mr. W.H. Lea, I.C.S., that the plaintiff might be directed to give security for defendant's costs. This suit was originally instituted in the Subordinate Judge's Court at Mymensingh, claiming Rs. 25,000 as damages for slander. It was subsequently, on the application of the plaintiff transferred to the High Court for trial. Counsel said that, having regard to the fact that the plaintiff, had no immovable property of her own and that if the suit be decided against her, the defendant would have no chance of receiving his costs from her, it was desirable that she should give security for defendant's costs. Mr. Gregory submitted that his Lordship had discretion under Section 380 of the Civil Procedure Code to make the order, and that the plaintiff would not be injured by it. The plaintiff stated in her affidavit that she would not give security for costs unless ordered by the High Court to do so. Having regard to her position and the circumstances of the case, it was necessary that she should give security for costs. Mr. Garth, instructed by Messrs. Orr, Dignam and Co., appeared for the plaintiff, and opposed the application. He said that this was a suit for slander in its written statement stated that the plaintiff had no cause of action, but did not say on what grounds. The defendant had no defence to the suit on the merits at all; the only defence he had was of a technical nature, and that, counsel submitted, ought not to entitle him to ask the Court to use its discretion under the law. Mr. Gregory having replied, his Lordship said that the question was whether the Court ought to exercise the power which it possessed under Section 380 of the Civil Procedure Code in directing the plaintiff to give security for defendant's costs in the suit. His Lordship had heard the learned counsel on both sides, and, upon all the circumstances of the case, his Lordship did not think that he should make such an order.

not see me in connection with the bye-election. Mr. Oldham himself came to see me in the Bar Library on the morning of the 24th, but I was not present there at the time and there he left word that he did not wish to see me in that connection. A few minutes after he met me near the Treasury building and told me that he declined to discuss anything in connection with the bye-election. At the time I drafted the plaint, I was aware of the motion of Shivanandan Prasad Singh in backing the defendant. At the last general election I sided with Kanti Babu who was my friend in May or July 1903. I was not a voter at that time. I was not present at the time the Vice-Chairman was elected. Information about the competition between Mr. Scott and Shivanandan Prasad Singh and between Shah Yau and Shivanandan Prasad Singh I got from Mr. Scott, and Kanti Babu. My knowledge with regard to two factions in the Municipality is co-eval with my arrival here. Some of the Municipal Commissioners themselves told me that there were two parties. This fact came out in the course of conversation. I had no occasion to see for myself inside the Municipal office how the parties were arranged and headed. Kanti Babu worked against S. P. Singh in the matter of the election of Vice-Chairman. I don't know if Kanti Babu was the retained pleader of Rai K. P. Singh, father of S. P. Singh. I don't remember of any instance when I saw him working for Rai K. P. Singh. I don't remember any instance Babu with regard to a public matter but did not fall out with him. I was appointed Secretary of the Marriott Opera Club in November 1903 and gave up that appointment in July 1904 after the bye-election. I was not forced to resign. I resigned because I did not like the ways of certain members. I filed all my application for the amendment of the voters list between the 9th and the 12th of May. I can't give the names of all the 32 applicants without the papers, I don't know of any application of the defendant which was rejected. As far as I recollect there is no municipal employee who is a voter of Ward A. Dargalal Amirli, Hazarilal and Ali Hussain are the voters of Ward A. They voted for the defendant. I cannot name the Civil Court peons who were present at the polling station, but I think I can identify some of them. I remember that only one Civil Court peon voted for the defendant. I applied for the copies on the 28th June 1904, and I got them towards the end of January last. The delay in the delivery of the copies was due to my refusal to pay the fees demanded. I did not myself see Mungrilal being confined in Rai K. P. Singh's house. I can give the name of one voter without working at the papers who voted for the defendant and who was disqualified and without paper I can give the names of any member. Moulvi Hux was the name of the disqualified voter and I think he voted for the defendant. Without papers I can't give the number of unqualified voters who voted for the defendants. After the election I came to know that some of the voters whose names were down in the list were not qualified. When I put in the petitions for amendment of the voters list I did not know who were the voters of this ward. In July I went to the Municipal office for the copies I had applied for and there those copies were placed in my hands and I made a note of the applicants who had applied at the instance of the defendant and afterwards on enquiry I came to know that they were disqualified. The unqualified voters were the newly-added voters. I think that the defendant secured votes somewhere between 125 and 135. I use Mashaheb's carriage even now. I don't think the name of the defendant was used at the time of the bye-election before the polling officer; but there was much in the tone. I was inside the room of the polling officer when he left the place. I did not see the actual beating of Mashaheb, but I was complained to Shaikh Rahmatul Ali Lalduwaja voted for the defendant. I don't know if he is a Zemindar, but I know he is an Honorary Magistrate. I think there are very few Mahomedan voters in Lalduwaja. In the fort the two Ambles voted for me, Mr. Walker Price, O'Grady voted for the defendant. I am not personally cognizant of any pressure being put upon 3 gentlemen by S. P. Singh. The pleaders Salja Prasad, Sital Prasad, Mandher Singh voted for the defendant. No coercion, undue influence, corrupt practice were used against them in my presence. Munshi Amirul Muktear, has a very decent practice at Munghyr. I know Sajjat Hossein Muktear, Mr. Amin Muktear, Gajadhar Prasad these voted for the defendant. I can't say about Harangilal. Amin has no influence in the quarter. No pressure was put upon these gentlemen in my presence. Pressure was put upon 3 persons in my presence. I can't say whether Hazarilal is a relative of Shivanandan. Since the illness of Chandi Prasad Misser after the bye election. I have been getting case from Baijnath Goenka. Baijnath Goenka does not help me in this case. I don't know if Baijnath Goenka had to spend Rs. 300 to 400 to treat the voters. I don't know of any hostility between my canvassers and the Vice-Chairman. Babu Baijnath Goenka did support Mr. Scott against S.P. Singh. Babu Benarasi Prasad, one of the Municipal Commissioners of Munghyr is one of my well-wishers. I have no personal knowledge whether he was removed. Mr. Scott voted for me. In my quarter I saw defendant go to some of the voters. He went to Jitu Mander, I did not tell Jitu that I would leave his house in case he voted for the defendant. I was informed that some of the voters were taken to the grog shop. Mungrilal did not vote for me because he was not a voter. He was kept confined because he was one of my most active voters. No complaint was brought by him against S.P. Singh. Raghunandan Prasad Singh, Inspector of Police, promised to send Constables to my quarter.

RE-EXAMINATION.

I did not put in any written application before the polling officer about the invalidity of certain voter because I did not know of any law under which I could. The papers relating to the defendant's election were sent to the Commissioner of Bhagalpur Division for approval and therefore I had no time to move the District Magistrate against the high-handedness of the "durwans." My private relations with Kanti Babu were as cordial as ever after the alteration. I refused to pay the fees for the copies demanded by the Municipality because they were illegal, and there was no sanction in law or this. The applicants came to me and told me their names were not registered as voters and hence I applied for amendment of the voters' list even before getting it.

Bina and who is dead and a number of other gentlemen whose names I do not remember at present. I think there were one or two other Bengalee friends of mine present at the time. About 80 voters voted for me. I have no personal knowledge as to how my voters were brought to the polling station. Before the bye-election I had made advances to the drivers of "tumtums." I don't know if I had three hackney carriages in my employ on the day of election. The time fixed for the election was from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. I did not observe that my voters were carried in three hackney carriages after the election from the polling station. Babu Syamal Das Chakrabarty and Babu Upendra Nath Banerjee, pleaders, did not tell me that they had already promised their votes to all the voters who played false with me. Their number would be about 80. Roser Momin, Chedi Mander, Kirat Gorhi, Kasi Gorhi, Darsan Gorhi, Tibo Gorhi, Kati Charaa Pasi and a number of other men, of my quarter whose names I don't recollect at present had at first promised their votes for me, but afterwards voted for the defendant, I once went to the house of those Gohis and I also went to the house of Kati Charan Pasi. I had these of my canvassers with me there at the time—Gopal Mander, Shaikh Mashaheb, Gaibe Ram etc. They promised to vote for me in the presence of the canvassers. My canvassers introduced me to these men. The defendant is almost my neighbour. He has got his fatherly house in my Maholla. Rs. 12 as excessive of taxes and Mehtar's pay. I have to pay to the municipality I found the defendant practising as a pleader here at the time I came. The defendant has a large quality of work. I don't know of the defendant has got a greater number of friends in Lalduwaja than I have; Babu Kumla Sahai has been a great friend of mine, and it must have been for his great love of me that he retired in my favour. I came to know Babu Kumla Sahai when I was practising at Begusarai. It must have been towards the end of 1901 or beginning of 1902. After the retirement of Kumla Sahai I think I got either 40 or 50 votes in consequence of his retirement. I cannot say if Babu K. Sahai is a retained Muktear of Babu Ram Bahadur Singh. The voter who promised their votes to Babu Kumla Sahai said that they would vote for me if Kumla Sahai retired. Some 10 or 15 voters had given me this sort of conditional promises. I don't think any of those 10 or 15 went over to the side of the defendant. I got about 60 of the votes that had been promised to me unconditionally. I drafted the plaint myself and showed it to some of my friends and had it settled. At the time of verifying the plaint I had some sort of personal knowledge of the contents of paras 3, 4, and 5 of the plaint. I gave my pleaders an outline of my own examination as to coercion, undue influence and corrupt practice. Babu Shymaldas Chakrabarty and Babu Brojo Gopal Mukerjee are the two pleaders whom I showed my plaint after it had been drafted by me. In my opinion specific statement about coercion, undue influence and corrupt practices were not necessary and therefore they were not made in the plaint. I had no misunderstanding with any of the members of the election committee. Before the day of election Mr. Thomas told me that we would vote for the defendant and Moulvi Nazir Hussain and Sayed went about canvassing for the defendant from which I inferred that they would vote for the defendant. As for Ganga Charan Babu, I know it as a fact that he was going to vote for the defendant. In fact he had supported his candidature. I have no personal knowledge about Babu Manohar Sing. I had no time to move the District Officer being informed of the formation of such a Committee at 9 o'clock on the morning of the day of election. I did not observe anything special in the conduct of the members of the Committee which was objectionable. Rev. Mr. Thomas at the last moment did not vote for any. At the inception there was a rush of voters in my favour to the polling room as they were eager to go away; after that the interest waned and the straggling voters were coming in up to 3 or 4 p.m. I did not file any written application before the polling officer as regards my complaint. The man who falsely personated Lalji Sahu voted for the defendant. I complained to the polling officer about it and he assured me that he took a note of the fact. I cannot say whether the vote given by him was counted in the defendant's favour. Pearilal Nander, a voter of my quarter, was snatched away from my people who were standing on the veranda of the polling office. I was inside the room at the time. He is alive and is away from Munghyr. I cannot say whether he came himself or in the company of my canvassers. I don't know all the "durwans" of Rai Kamleswari Prasad Singh, but some of them I do know. I can name two of them, Peari Sing and Sukul Misser. The "durwan" of Babu Hajirilal named Raja Ram was standing with a "lathi" in his hand at the door of my house. About 7 weeks before the bye-election my canvassers began to try to secure votes for me. About 6 weeks before the bye-election, I began to go to some of the voters leisurely. I found some of the canvassers of defendant working some 5 or 6 weeks before the bye-election. My canvassers had no pions and "durwans" to help them. There was no breach of the peace between the canvassers on both sides, but I cannot say about friction. A day previous to the bye-election I found the "durwans" of Rai Kamleswari Prasad actually commit acts of high-handedness. I found the "durwans" actually going to the house of the voters and threatening them. On the day previous to the election I found about 5 or 6 "durwans"; two of them I knew from before. Jitu Mander, Bhushan, Chedi—these are the voters whom I saw being threatened by the "durwans." I saw this from my own place, I saw one of the voters actually taken away from his bungalow, Jitu Mander my landlord, did not vote for either me or the defendant. I did not move the Magistrate at that time. I did not file any petition before the polling officer, to the effect that some of the voters who had promised their votes to me had been gained over I did not question the validity of the votes of those who voted for the defendant before the polling officer nor to the Chairman of the Municipality. I wanted to see Mr. Oldham the District Magistrate, and the appointment to see him was at 10 a.m. of the 24th June. I wanted to see him on the 23rd before the bye election. I wrote a letter to the Collector to the effect that I wanted to see him regarding the bye-election. I did not present any formal application. I did not go to see him at the appointed hour as I had no time as also because he would

renewal of the attempt to bring Afghanistan under British influence, and if the Amir insisted upon protecting them himself and failed to do so, the excuse without which even the authors of the Tibet expedition could hardly invade his kingdom would have been put into the hands of men ready to make use of it at the first convenient opportunity." If the object of the military party were really the defence of India, he says, they would be more likely to propose to pull up the existing railways rather than construct new ones. But expansion, not defence, is the object. India, he maintains, is safe behind her threefold barriers river desert, mountain. The experience of Russia in Manchuria is before our eyes, yet we seem to want to play with fire on our own account. The British Mission to Kabul awaited the return of the Amir's son from India, and no inking has as yet been vouchsafed, either through the Press Room or in any other way, as to the result of the negotiations for the conclusion of which both Missions were deemed necessary or, at least, advisable. But with the "Forward" Viceroy at the head of affairs and the "Forward" party ready and willing to carry out his behests, India cannot but await with anxiety the results of the "improved relations" between Afghanistan and her eastern neighbour. In the strongest language Col. Hanna denounces the military expenditure which keeps India hopelessly poor, and it cannot be too frequently instilled into British ears that India's only true safety lies in the contentment and devotion of her peoples. "If we would only devote ourselves to creating a prosperous peasantry and leaving the frontiers alone we should have nothing fear from Russia."

MONGHYR MUNICIPAL ELECTION CASE.

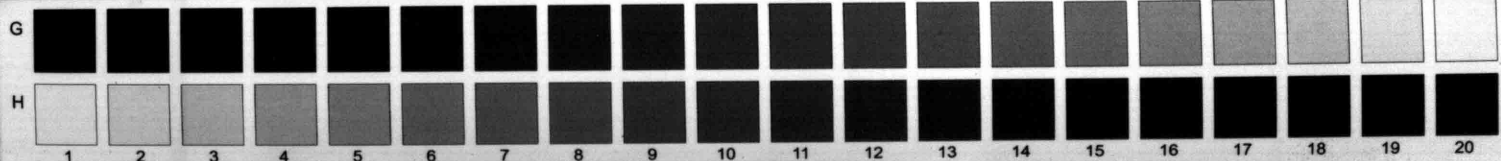
(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Monghyr, Mar. 1.

CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Here is the cross-examination of Babu Gopal Chandra Som, the plaintiff in the case.

Babu Gopal Chandra Som, cross-examined by Moulvi Syed Nazir Hossein said:—I practised at Begusarai before I came to Monghyr. I came here on the 29th April, 1903. I left Begusarai of my own choice. It is absolutely wrong to say that I had any friction with the Sub-divisional Officer of Begusarai. On the other hand I was on very good terms with Mr. Rainy, the Sub-divisional Officer. I had no friction with the first Muniff of Begusarai so long as I was there. After I left Begusarai I learned that the 1st Muniff of Begusarai had reported against me to the District Judge who took no action upon the report. The pleaders of Begusarai passed a resolution not to act in concert with me. I was very popular with the clients and the public. Before coming to Begusarai I was a District Court Pleader of the 24-Pargannas for about 9 years. I came away to Begusarai on account of my ill-health. I had no connection with the voters of Ward A before I joined the Monghyr Bar. Ward A includes Lalduwaja, fort and Balumbazar in which a portion of Lalupokhar is included. After the death of Kanti Babu I enquired into the matter, and I came to know of the names of the voters of Ward A. In May 1904, I thought of standing as a candidate for election. I spoke to some of my friends to support me; one of them was Babu Haran Chandra Chatterji and others were Babus Kedar Nath Sen, Notober Sirkar, Syamal Das Chakrabarti, Babu Akhleswar Prasad, Babu Gurjoti Sahai and Mr. C. T. Ambler (Junior). I also spoke to Babu Apurba Kumar Sen, Supervisor of the District Board. Babus Narayan Das, and Chandi Prasad Misser, both pleaders, were spoken to on the occasion and also Babu Sachipati Ganguli. There were other people to whom I spoke. There are about 250 voters in that Ward. I can not give a comparative table of the voters arranged according to their nationality; the bulk of them are B-haris. I had a list of voters with me, and I ticked off the names of the voters who had promised their votes to me. I had expected to get at least 150 votes. At the time I canvassed I freely told the voters that there were two other candidates—Munshi Kamla Sahai and the defendant for the election. I did not see all those people who promised to vote for me. My canvassers and some of the voters themselves came to me and spoke to me about the promised votes. In Lalduwaja my canvassers were Mouljal Sahu, Bawan Sahu, Ramavater Singh and latterly Babu Jungbahadur, a servant of Babu Rambahadur Singh. I had also other canvassers in Lalduwaja whose names I forgot at present. In my quarter I had Babus Mungrilal, Gaibi Ram, Shamail Mander, Kanahilal Mander, Moulvi Layaquet Hussain, Shaikh Mashaheb, Misri Pasban, Ramprasad and others, whose names I forgot at present as my canvassers. I was not supported by Babu Baijnath Goenka and Benarasi Prasad Chowdhury. I had their moral support and their good wishes, and they wished me "bonjour." Benarasi Prasad and Moulvi Layaquet Hussain did not go to the voters in the fort to my knowledge to canvass for me. Mungrilal and Ramavater had engaged me as their pleader before the bye-election and Bawan Sahu came with them. Jung Bahadur was introduced to me by Babu Kumla Sahai after he had retired in my favour. As for the other canvassers of Lalduwaja I was introduced to them by the good offices of the above gentlemen. I don't know if Bawan Sahu Rambahadur, Babu and Mongri Sahu are indebted to Baijnath Goenka several times before the bye-election because I am on very intimate terms with him. During the course of my interview I spoke to him about the bye-election but I did not ask for his help. I have not received any pecuniary help from Babu Baijnath Goenka for the purpose of securing votes. In fact I spent not a single farthing on my votes. To my knowledge it is not a fact that my voters were kept confined in "Kothi" No. 10 and fed by Babu Baijnath Goenka on my behalf on the day of the election. I don't know whereof my voters were made to stay. I found some outside the polling room on the "maidan." I had not to spend a farthing for the treatment of my voters. I asked Babu Binode Behari Roy, Secretary to the Coronation Club, to bring some aerated waters and ice for the refreshment of my canvassers, Babu Hem Chandra Bose, pleader, Babu Amulv nath Chatterjee, Muktear, Babu Surendra Nath Bhattacharjee at present Shrestadar of the Sub-divisional Officer of Begusarai and another man whose name was



CALCUTTA GAZETTE.—MAR. 8.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. E. B. H. Panton, substantive pro tempore Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act, in the first grade, of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Saran district, in relinquishing charge of his appointment as Officiating Additional District and Sessions Judge, Patna and Bogra.

Maulvi Mohammad Habibullah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the Bihar sub-division of the Patna district.

Babu Chandra Sekher Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinajpur, is appointed to have charge of the Naugon sub-division of the Rajshahi district.

Babu Annado Charan Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Naugon, Rajshahi, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Dinajpur district.

Mr. A. N. Moberly, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Singhbhum, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. A. Gait.

Mr. H. W. C. Carnuff, C.I.E., Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpur, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Government of Bengal during the absence, on deputation, of the Hon'ble Mr. A. Earl.

Babu Kali Pada Sarker, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur, is appointed to act as Assistant Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Baladeva Rama Jha.

Babu Gopal Chandra Sarker, B.A., Head Master, Patna Zilla School (class III of the Subordinate Educational Service), substantive pro tempore in class II, is confirmed in that class.

Mr. Lokendranath Palit, District and Sessions Judge, Faridpur, is allowed combined leave for eight months.

Babu Durga Prasad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darbhanga, is allowed leave for twenty-three days.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. Earle, I.C.S., on special duty, is allowed combined leave for six months and twenty-four days.

Babu Baladeva Rama Jha, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, is allowed leave for twenty days.

Moulvi Syed Abul Mansoor, Special Sub-Registrar, Dinajpur, is allowed an extension of leave for twenty-one days.

Captain R. M. Dalziel, I.M.S., Officiating Superintendent, Presidency Jail Calcutta, is allowed an extension of leave for two days.

Babu Narendro Nath Sen, Probationary Deputy Collector, is appointed substantively pro tempore to the eighth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Mysnensingh district.

Babu Narendro Nath Sen, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mysnensingh, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Bogra district.

Mr. Satendra Chandra Mallik, Officiating Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge, Faridpur, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Lokendro Nath Palit.

Mr. Mohan Bhattacharjee, M.A., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Patna, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Apara Prasad Mukerji.

Babu Saad Kumar Ghose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Orissa, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Rajan, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Bipin Bihari Chatterjee.

Babu Hem Chandra Bose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Cuttack, to be ordinarily stationed at Bhadrak, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Behari Lal Chatterjee.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Khudiram Podder, Sub-Deputy Collector, Madhupur, Bhagalpur, is transferred to the Deoghar sub-division, Sonthal Pargana.

Babu Murari Misra, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Cuttack district, on being relieved of his present Settlement duties in Banki.

The gentlemen named below are appointed substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors, and are posted to the Divisions mentioned against their names:—Babu Nagendra Nath Ray, B.A., Chota Nagpur Division. Babu Bejoy Bihari Mukerji, B.A., Patna Division.

Babu Bagala Prasanna Chakraborty, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong Division is posted to the head-quarters station of the Tippera district.

Babu Radhika Lal De, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Dacca Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Mymensingh district.

Babu Surendra Nath Bhattacharyya, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Birbhum district.

The Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectors named below are appointed substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors and are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts mentioned against their names:—Babu Robati Nath Chatterjee, Howrah, Maulvi Mohammad Sahabuddin Khan Bhagalpur.

On Thursday evening last the whole of the employees of the "Times of India" assembled in the large printing hall of the works for the purpose of presenting an address to Mr. F. M. Coleman, Managing Proprietor, who is relinquishing the active management of the business on retiring to England. Mr. F. A. Penetra read an address: The address was finely engrossed on vellum, artistically illuminated with scenes representative of Oriental life and handsomely framed. It was signed by all heads of departments.

The other day the Mukhtiar and 1st Class Magistrate of Tando Mohomed Khan arrested 24 Pathans at a village some miles off where they were, with 5 more who escaped—intimidating the Zemindar (Mr. Odham Shewakram) in order to extort from him money far in excess of what was due to a party of them which had taken a contract for brick-making. They had to give 15,000 bricks, had supplied only about 10,000, but they insisted on having money for 30,000 without allowing anybody to count them. It is said that Mr. Odham's life was in danger and he had to jump over the back wall in order to go to Tando Mohomed Khan to inform the Mukhtiar who displayed much tact and courage in arresting the men, having only two or three policemen with him at the time. The Zemindar also acted very cleverly throughout, especially in having induced the men to lay down their lathes and a hatchet.—"Hindustan Journal."

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Feb. 16.

The Thibet Mission.—Mr. Bryce asked the Secretary of State for India: What is the total expenditure that has been incurred by the Government of India in respect of the recent expedition to Thibet?

Mr. Brodrick: The total expenditure on the Thibet Mission up to Jan. 31 last was \$12,301.

Mr. Bryce: That is not the full cost. I suppose that there are other parts of expenditure not yet ascertained?

Mr. Brodrick: As far as I am aware, all the main items of the cost are here included.

Mr. Buchanan: Is the right hon. gentleman not aware that in the despatch to the Government of India it was stated that imperial interest must be superior in the settlement of this question? That being so, is there not a ground for the Imperial Exchequer sharing part of the expenses?

Mr. Brodrick: Any pressure which has been brought to bear on the Indian Government in regard to imperial interests was not towards increasing, but limiting, the cost.

The British Mission to Kabul.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India, what were the objects of the British Mission to Kabul; at what date was such mission determined upon; and whether he will publish papers on the subject?

Mr. Brodrick: It would not be in the public interest to make any statement, at Kabul or to publish papers on the subject.

The Tilak Case.—Mr. Schwann asked the Secretary of State for India: Regarding the case of Mr. Gangadhar Tilak, will he state whether the report of Mr. Brewin, the investigating officer, was favourable to Mr. Tilak; and would he place upon the table the Government's orders upon the report, together with the report?

Mr. Brodrick: Police reports are privileged documents and are not communicated to the public. I am therefore unable to lay the report referred to upon the table or to state its purport.

The Indian Police Report.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: When the report of the Indian Police Commission will be laid before Parliament?

Mr. Brodrick: I am now communicating to the Government of India the decision of the Secretary of State in Council on the most important measures recommended in the Report. I anticipate that the Government of India will, on receipt of the despatch, publish a comprehensive resolution reviewing the whole subject and stating the conclusions arrived at. When I receive this I will communicate papers to Parliament.

Chinese in the Transvaal.—Mr. Herbert Samuel asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies: If he will state, so far as particulars have yet reached him, what sentences have been inflicted by courts in the Transvaal on Chinese labourers, and for what offences in each case; and, where the option of a fine was given, whether the fine was paid or other punishment suffered?

Mr. Lyttelton: I am informed by Lord Milner, in reply to an inquiry as to the sentences imposed in connection with the riot at the Gebuld Mine in October, as follows:—"Thirty-nine Chinese labourers were sentenced to (1) public violence, harm on Oct. 21. Sentences of four months' imprisonment with hard labour were imposed on each on the first charge, and on the second charge five were sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for two months and to whipping (20 strokes). The sentences of imprisonment ran concurrently. Both offences are common law offences, but the punishment of whipping is imposed by section 38 of Ordinance 26 of 1904 (Crimes Ordinance). By the law of the colony no sentence of whipping imposed by a magistrate can be carried out till the record has been sent to and this sentence has been confirmed by a Judge of the Supreme Court. These sentences were confirmed by a Judge and certified under section 39 of the Magistrates' Court Proclamation, 1902."

I have asked to be supplied with regular returns as to sentences and convictions from time to time.

Sir Henry Cotton and the National Congress.—Mr. MacNeill asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Viceroy of India declined the request, made by Sir Henry Cotton, K.C.S.I., to present to his Excellency personally a copy of this resolution passed at the recent session of the Indian National Congress at Bombay; and, if so, whether, having regard to the record of Sir Henry Cotton as an Indian administrator, this action of the Viceroy of India has the sanction of the Imperial Government?

Mr. Brodrick: I have no official information on the subject; but I observe that a letter from the Viceroy's private secretary to Sir Henry Cotton, couched in cordial language, stating the reasons why Lord Curzon declined to receive him officially as President of the Congress, has been published in the Indian newspapers. RAs at present advised, I see no reason to question the propriety of the course adopted by the Viceroy.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The King, who was accompanied by the Queen, opened in person on Feb. 14 the Sixth Session of the present Parliament.

Their Majesties, with the officials of the Royal Household, proceeded from Buckingham Palace to Westminster by way of the Mall, Whitehall, and Parliament Street, in a State procession which included six carriages. The route was lined by troops and there was an immense gathering of spectators, who gave the King and Queen a most enthusiastic welcome.

Arriving at the Westminster Palace at 2 p.m., their Majesties entered by the Victoria Tower and, after robing, passed in procession through the Royal Gallery to the House of Lords, where there was a large attendance of peers, members of the diplomatic body, and other privileged spectators.

The King read his Speech from the Throne, and the Royal party immediately afterwards left the House. The Royal procession returned to Buckingham Palace by the same route as it had come, and its return was again witnessed by great and cheering crowds.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, Feb. 14.

Long before the arrival of their Majesties the House of Lords, as usual on such occasions, presented a brilliant appearance. After the King and Queen had taken their seats, the Commons, summoned by Black Rod appeared at the bar led by the Speaker. The King read the Speech in strong clear tones so that every word of it was heard distinctly all over the great assembly.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen.—My relations with foreign Powers continue to be of a friendly description.

It gave me particular satisfaction to receive as my guests during the past autumn the King and Queen of Portugal, a country which has for centuries been connected with Great Britain by ties of the closest friendship.

The war which has been in progress since February last between Russia and Japan unhappily continues. My Government have been careful to observe in the strictest manner the obligations incumbent upon a neutral Power.

The condition of the Balkan Peninsula continues to give cause for anxiety. The measures adopted at the instance of the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Governments have been instrumental in bringing about some amelioration of the state of the disturbed districts.

Progress has notably been made in the reorganisation of the Gendarmerie, to which officers belonging to my Army have contributed valuable assistance. These measures have still to be supplemented by radical reforms, especially of the financial system, before any permanent improvements can be effected in the administration of these provinces of the Turkish Empire. I note with satisfaction that the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Governments have lately addressed to the Porte proposals for this purpose. My Government is in communication with those of the other Powers mainly concerned upon this important subject.

The Convention entered into between my Government and that of the French Republic for the amicable settlement of questions involving the interests of both countries has been approved by the French Legislature and duly ratified. It will, I believe, operate in a manner advantageous to both countries, while it cannot fail to strengthen the friendly relations which so happily subsist between them.

Agreements, under which international questions of a certain class will be referred to arbitration, have been concluded between my Government and the Governments of Sweden and Norway, Portugal, and Switzerland.

My Government has also come to an Agreement with that of Russia under which an International Commission of Inquiry, assembled in conformity with the principles of The Hague Convention of 1899, has been entrusted with the duty of investigating the circumstances connected with the disaster to British trawlers which resulted from the action of the Russian fleet in the North Sea, and of apportioning the responsibility for this deplorable incident.

The steps to be taken for establishing a Representative Constitution in the Transvaal are receiving the earnest consideration of my Government and of those administering the Colony, and will, I hope, result in substantial progress towards the ultimate goal of complete self-government.

An Agreement, the provisions of which are calculated to place the relations of the Thibetan Government and the Government of India on a satisfactory footing, was concluded at Lhasa on Sept. 7. The great difficulties which the Mission encountered were brilliantly surmounted by the civil and military authorities responsible for its conduct.

The Chinese Government have sent a Commissioner to Calcutta to negotiate a Convention of Adhesion on their part to the Agreement with the Thibetan Government. Papers on the subject have been laid before you.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has sent his son, the Sirdar Inayatulla, to pay a complimentary visit to the Viceroy and Governor-General of India at Calcutta, and a high officer of the Government of India has been deputed to Kabul to discuss with his Highness the Ameer questions affecting the relations of the two Governments.

A situation has arisen connected with the administration of the property belonging to certain ecclesiastical bodies in Scotland which requires legislative intervention. With a view to the wise consideration of such a measure I have appointed commissioners, who are engaged in making an inquiry into all the circumstances of the case, and whose report may enable you to frame such proposals as will, I trust, tend to the efficient administration of ecclesiastical funds, and the promotion of peace and good will.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.—The Estimates for the service of the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been framed with the utmost economy which the circumstances of the present time admit.

My Lords and Gentlemen.—Your attention will be directed to proposals for diminishing the anomalies in the present arrangement of electoral areas which are largely due to the growth and movement of population in recent years.

A Bill to mitigate the evils arising out of alien immigration into the United Kingdom will be laid before you.

Legislation will be submitted to you for the establishment of authorities to deal with the question of the unemployed. I have noticed, with profound regret and sympathy the abnormal distress which has been caused by the want of employment during the present winter. Arrangements of a temporary character have been made to meet the difficulty, but it is expedient now to provide machinery for this purpose of a more permanent character.

You have already partially considered provision for amending the laws relating to Education in Scotland. They will again be brought before you.

A Bill to amend and extend the Workmen's Compensation Acts will be submitted for your consideration.

Proposals for improving the status of the Local Government Board and the Board of Trade, and for establishing a Minister of Commerce and Industry, will be laid before you.

Bills will also be introduced for amending the law with respect to Valuation Authorities, and the procedure for making Valuations; for consolidating the enactments relating to naval prize of war; for amending the law relating to the notification of industrial accidents; for the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Acts and other temporary Acts affecting certain classes of ratepayers; for the prevention of the adulteration of butter; and for the amendment of the law with regard to cases stated for the Court of Crown Cases Reserved.

I pray that Providence may guide all your deliberations for the good of my people.

The House resumed shortly after four o'clock, when the Prince of Wales and a large number of peers attended. The Princess of Wales took her seat in the peeresses' gallery, where were other persons.

The Earl of Ranfurly took the oath and subscribed the roll for the first time during the present Parliament, and Lord Clinton took the oath and subscribed the roll on his succession to the title.

The Bishop of Bangor who was introduced by the Bishop of St. Asaph and the Bishop of St. Davids, took the oath and his seat.

THE ADDRESS.

Lord Winchester moved the Address in reply. Referring to the war in the Far East, he reminded the House that when the alliance was first made with Japan it was spoken of as the union of fanaticism with civilisation, but the war showed that there was nothing of fanaticism about it.

Lord Oranmore and Browne having seconded the Address, paying a high tribute to the able manner in which the Mission to Thibet had been carried out and cordially approving the proposal to deal with electoral reform.

Lord Spencer rejoiced that the Speech contained the usual announcement that the country was in friendly relations with foreign Powers. Referring to the war, he bore testimony to the administration with which the courage which had been displayed on both sides was regarded, and he expressed the hope that the Government, in conjunction with other Powers, would lose no opportunity to bring the bloodshed to an end. He complimented Lord Lansdowne on the prudence and patience which he displayed in dealing with the questions arising out of the war, but urged that pressure should be put on the Turkish Government by the noble lord to bring to an end the scandals which still existed in Turkey. Passing lightly over the North Sea incident, he pressed for more information as to self-government in South Africa, asked why no mention was made of the Orange Free State, and he further required more information as to finance and Chinese labour.

THIBET.

Dealing with Thibet, he said:—I, of course, rejoice that the difficulties of our forces there have been overcome, and I join in admiration of the valour and perseverance of the soldiers. I also feel that the negotiations were carried out under enormous difficulties. Sir Francis Younghusband exceeded his instructions in many respects, but he did very fine work and deserves considerable thanks. In the despatches which have been submitted the home Government blamed very seriously Sir Francis Younghusband in some particulars and praised him in others. Sir Francis Younghusband was placed in very great difficulties. He was directly instructed by the Government of India. We all know that that Government wanted to do a great deal more than the Secretary of State here did. I at once say that I believe it is of the utmost importance that any decision made by the Government and declared to be the policy of the Government should be adhered to. Our Minister at Peking and our Ambassador at St. Petersburg gave most specific assurances to the Chinese and Russian Governments as to what his Majesty's Government intended to do with regard to Thibet. His Majesty's Government most distinctly repudiated any notion of having an agent at Lhasa, or of occupying permanently any of the territory of Thibet. But under the actual terms that were signed at Lhasa we practically were to occupy an important part of the country for 75 years. That was at once contrary both to the spirit and the letter of what the noble marquis opposite stated; and for the sake of the public honour of this country it is absolutely indispensable that it should be laid down that the Home Government could not agree. I still think that Sir Francis Younghusband may have been somewhat hardly treated, considering the enormous difficulties with which he had to contend and the manner in which he overcame them. Knowing as he did the views of the Government of India, which directly gave him his instructions, I think that, if anybody is to blame, it is the Government of India, who differed from the Home Government, rather Sir Francis Younghusband. (Hear, hear.) On this subject I have one more question I should like to ask. In his Majesty's Speech it is said that the Chinese Government have sent a commissioner to negotiate a convention of adhesion to the treaty with Thibet. We should very much like to know what has happened about that. It is not stated the commissioner has arrived.

AFGHANISTAN.

There is another matter of considerable importance—namely, the question of Afghanistan, said Lord Spencer. We do not know what the negotiations which are going on are, but we know that they may be of very great importance; and I hope that at the earliest possible date we shall have full papers with regard to them.

As to the reference to the Estimates and economy, he criticised the gigantic expenditure of recent years in a time of peace, and twitted the Government with rushing Army schemes one after the other, only to be torn to ribbons. Radical changes had been made in the auxiliary forces, but as to this they had no information. He denied that it was the Opposition which defeated the Aliens Bill; it was the Government who rejected a fair compromise. Criticising in a hostile manner the proposals of a new Minister for Commerce and Industry and a Redistribution Bill, he incidentally denounced the postponement of the appeal to the country as indefensible and the Bill as intended to prolong the life of the Government.

Lord Lansdowne declared that if an opportunity presented itself to bring the war to a close the Government would avail themselves of it with alacrity, but intervention might be fraught with the worst possible results, not only with rebuffs, but retarding the very consummation which they desired. This country had adopted an attitude of the most impartial neutrality. They had endeavoured also to uphold the time-honoured policy of the country to reduce contraband to the narrowest possible restrictions; and since July last no British vessels had been interfered with, with the exception of those engaged in blockade running. There was one occasion when they were in danger of being drawn into the vortex of war—he referred to what was now spoken of as the North Sea incident. Dealing in some detail with the state of Macedonia, he remarked that it was satisfactory to know that there was an agreement among the Powers to introduce wider reforms, and that a new scheme, which was under discussion, marked a considerable step in advance. As to South Africa, an important step had been taken towards giving the Transvaal representative institutions. Simister prophecies as to Chinese labour had not been and were not likely to be realised.

THIBET.

Referring to Thibet, Lord Lansdowne said:—Then the noble earl passed to the question of Thibet, and touched upon our policy in that country. My lords, our policy towards Thibet has been absolutely consistent from the time that the question of sending a mission into Thibet was first discussed. If your lordship will carry in your minds the telegram which was sent to the Government of India on November 6, 1903—the telegram in which we announced that the Mission was to enter Thibet for the purpose of obtaining reparation, and that we had no intention of annexing the country or remaining there permanently—you will find that to that policy, thus clearly put before this country, and, indeed, before the whole world we have scrupulously and strictly adhered. The noble earl referred to the instructions given to the Government of India and to Col. Younghusband. Those instructions were founded upon the policy which I have just described. If your lordships will look at the Blue Book which has lately been laid upon the table, and if you will look at the telegrams of July 6 and 27, you will find that in the clearest possible language it was explained to the Government of India, and no doubt by them explained to Col. Younghusband that it was our desire that the terms which he was to demand from the Thibetans should be of a character which would enable the Mission to retire from the Chumbi Valley in three years. That was communicated by the Government of India to Col. Younghusband; and it was because Col. Younghusband, acting no doubt as he believed for the best, disregarded those instructions and made an arrangement which would have compelled us to remain in the Chumbi Valley not for three years, but for 75 years, that we found it absolutely necessary, much as we regretted in any way to discourage so valuable and brilliant an officer, to point out to him that he had transgressed his instructions, and that his action had to be repudiated by his Majesty's Government. There can be no mistake about the facts because Col. Younghusband himself, with a frankness which does him great credit, in his published defence admits that his action was not covered by his instructions, and the Government of India, defending, as I think they had a right to defend, Col. Younghusband, and making the best case they possibly could for him, were constrained to admit that he had fallen into an error of judgment—and not only an error of judgment, but a serious one, for it involved the occupation of Chumbi Valley for a period of 75 years, in contravention of the undertaking of his Majesty's Government. There can be no doubt about it. Whatever differences there might have been in the first instance between his Majesty's Government and the Government of India, the Government of India at that time understood fully what our policy was, and faithfully, as we have every reason to believe, carried out the instructions which they had received from us. Before I leave this subject, let me say that I, for one, regard Col. Younghusband's achievement as one of the most brilliant of the many brilliant achievements which have illustrated the history of the Indian frontier, and that, while I am obliged to admit that at this point he failed, I believe that the memory of the great feat of arms and diplomacy which he and those with him accomplished will live long after the censure we have been obliged to pass upon him has been forgotten. (Hear, hear.)

AFGHANISTAN.

The noble earl desires information as to the progress of negotiations with Afghanistan, but I am afraid it is not a request I can comply with at present. The negotiations are still in progress; they are extremely difficult and intricate in character, and it would be most undesirable at the present moment to lay on the table papers on the subject.

With regard to the War Secretary, he had achieved a great deal in reforming the War Office, and not a moment had been lost. Having pointed out the importance of the Aliens Question and dwelt on the unemployed problem, he turned to redistribution. Lord Spencer considered it impossible to deal with it this session, but that did not prevent them from passing a Bill next session. He had seen in the "Times" a letter from the noble lord which he took to mean that he was to become the leader of his party, which was apparently at present headless. But that idea was dissipated before nightfall. They must ask for a clearer note, or the walls of Jericho might stand for some considerable time, permitting of the passing of a Redistribution Bill in another session.

Lord Goschen complained that there was no reference to the fiscal policy. It certainly would be the duty of some one who took an interest in it to bring it before the Government in a friendly spirit, provided they would consider that the free-trade Unionists were friendly and not disloyal.

The Address was agreed to.

A VICTIM OF RED TAPE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Tamluk, Mar. 5.

Babu Phani Bhushan Mukerjee, Munsiff, First Court, died here on the morning of Saturday last pending his application for immediate leave on the ground of serious illness. It appears that on Tuesday last the District Judge was wired for permission to leave the station at once but that officer, owing to there being strict circular order to the effect, could not act independently and wired on Wednesday to the High Court. The High Court on receipt of the wire, cast about for an officiating hand and wired him to relieve Phani Babu. The official gentleman, again, began to make himself ready for the journey and the expected stay. Meantime Phani Babu was perfectly in the dark as to what was being done with his wire for leave for, he received no news either from the District Judge at Midnapur or from the High Court. So, waiting for the whole of Wednesday and Thursday, a wire was sent to the High Court direct renewing his application for immediate leave, by a prepaid telegram. At last the momentous reply came that he might make over charge to the Sheristadar of his court. Only ten hours after, Phani Babu was dead. There is a strong feeling here at the unnecessary centralisation which takes away all independence from the District Judges in the matter of granting leave to Munsiffs. Munsiffs in cases like the above, surely the High Court can well leave a certain measure of discretion in cases of emergent leave to Munsiffs working in the interior.



BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Council was held at the Council Chamber, Writers' Buildings, on Saturday last. The Hon. Sir Andrew Fraser, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, presided, and there were present the Hon. Mr. L. Hare, the Hon. Mr. K. G. Gupta, the Hon. Mr. B. L. Gupta, the Hon. Mr. P. O'Kinealy, Advocate-General of Bengal, the Hon. Mr. E. W. Collins, the Hon. Mr. R. W. C. Lytle, the Hon. Mr. W. A. Inglis, the Hon. Mr. L. P. Shirres, the Hon. Mr. A. Earle, the Hon. Mr. R. T. Greer, the Hon. Babu K. P. Ghosh, the Hon. Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, the Hon. Saligram Singh, the Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour, the Hon. Mr. A. A. Apear, the Hon. Babu Ambica Charan Mazumdar, the Hon. Mr. J. Chaudhuri, the Hon. Asif Kader Saiyid Wasif Ali Mirza, of Murshidabad and the Hon. Raja Ban Behari Kapur.

THE BHAGIRATHI-HOOGHLY RIVER.

The Hon. Asif Kader Saiyid Wasif Ali Mirza asked the following questions:—
(a) Is the Government going to take any steps without further delay, for using dredgers for the improvement of the river Bhagirathi and Hooghly, as it has recognised the miserable condition of the river during the dry season?
(b) Does the Government consider that the necessity for the use of dredgers has ceased owing to the facility of communication likely to be secured by the opening of the Ranaghat-Kathihar line?
(c) Does not the Government consider it desirable and necessary to remove the existing shoals and to secure a navigable channel with current throughout the year for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the large tracts through which the river runs?
(d) Does not the Government share the views of experts who believe that the port of Calcutta would be materially prejudiced if the channel of the Bhagirathi and Hooghly were not properly improved and maintained?
(e) Is the Government aware that the merchants and traders carrying on inland trade prefer carrying their articles by river to railway, and does not the Government believe that, notwithstanding the facilities of connection to be had by the opening of the Ranaghat-Kathihar line, the river traffic would increase to a considerable degree if the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river be made navigable throughout the year?
(f) If the Government be not prepared to make use of dredgers for improving the channel, would the Government be pleased to direct its officer in charge of the Nadia Rivers Division to make more extensive use of corrugated-iron sheets and sal posts in the Bandel works instead of bamboo mats and bamboo posts?

The Hon. Mr. Inglis replied as follows:—It will be convenient if I answer questions (a) (b) and (c) together. The proposal to keep the Bhagirathi open for navigation throughout the year by means of large suction dredgers has never been seriously contemplated by this Government. Admitting that the scheme were practicable from an engineering point of view it would certainly be prohibitive on account of its great cost; and in view of the large expenditure which will shortly be incurred in the development of the railway systems near the river it is highly improbable that the Government of India would sanction further expenditure in order to increase still further the means of communication with Calcutta for the Ganges traffic. A project for establishing direct water communication between Madaripur and Khulna has recently been submitted to the Government of India for sanction. In the estimate provision is made for the purchase of a large suction dredger. If the estimate is approved by the Secretary of State it will be possible to have the machine landed in India in the course of next year. It is the intention of Government to experiment with this dredger in removing the extensive shoal which has formed at the entrance of the Bhagirathi and should the experiment prove successful there is reason to believe that a good supply of fresh water will be secured in the upper parts of the river during the hot weather months. The answer to (d) is in the negative. (e) It is not the experience of this Government that merchants and traders prefer carrying their goods by river to railways. Since the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and the South Bihar Railway came into competition with the Orissa Canals the Orissa Coast Canal the Midnapore and the Sone Canals the receipts from tolls in these canals have decreased by five per cent. An experiment was made by using corrugated iron sheets instead of mats in the preparation of the bandels. It has been decided not to continue the experiment as the results obtained were not commensurate with the cost incurred.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

The Hon. Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar asked:—
I. (a) Has the attention of the Government been called to two paragraphs which appeared in the "Bengal" of the 21st September last and in the "Telegraph" of the same date, in both of which it was stated that it was in contemplation of the Government to reduce the numerical strength of the Traffic Staff of the Eastern Bengal State Railway? Has the Government been yet consulted in the matter? And before any such reduction is sanctioned, will the Government be pleased thoroughly to consider the inexpediency of such a step particularly in view of the effect which such reductions may have on chances of accidents which are not unknown on this Railway?
(b) Will the Government, in view of the heavy traffic on this Railway and the risks attendant thereon, be further pleased to consider the propriety of extending the double lines from Poradah to Rajbari?
II. Will the Government be pleased to call for and lay on the table a statement containing the following particulars regarding the assessment of income-tax in each district for the years 1901-1902, 1902-1903, 1903-1904 and 1904-1905, in the subjoined or any other form that may be found convenient?—

but less than Rs. 2,000

Total Income-tax assessed for the year in each district

1903-04 1904-05.

Name of district—	
1. Number of assesses with income not less than Rs. 1,000, but less than Rs. 1,250	...
2. Number of assesses with income not less than Rs. 1,250, but less than Rs. 1,500	...
3. Number of assesses with income not less than Rs. 1,500, but less than Rs. 1,750	...
4. Number of assesses with income not less than Rs. 1,750 but less than Rs. 2,000	...

Total Income-tax assessed for the year in each district

The Hon. Mr. Inglis, replying said: No general reduction of the traffic staff on the Eastern Bengal State Railway has been carried out or is contemplated, but from time to time the traffic staff at the various stations on the system is adjusted by responsible officers to the strength which is considered by them to be necessary for the safe and efficient working of the traffic. Settlement of the details of the traffic staff to be employed at each station is entrusted by Government to the Manager of the Railway. No special risks are entailed in working the traffic on the Poradah-Rajbari single line, and the line is capable of dealing with a heavier traffic than now ever passes over it.

GOVERNMENT SHELLED FACTORY.

The Hon. Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar asked the following question:—
III. Has the attention of the Government been called to a paragraph in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" of the 17th February, 1905, in which it is stated that over three thousand workmen have struck work at the Government Shelled Factory at Cossipore? Is it true, as stated in the said paragraph that the strike is due to the factory authorities having extended the working hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to 7.45 a.m. to 8.15 p.m.? If so will the Government be pleased to inform the Council what action it has taken or proposes to take with a view to pacify the strike?

The Hon. Mr. Inglis replied as follows:—The attention of Government had not been drawn to the paragraph in question when the Hon. Member put his question. Inasmuch as the Government Shelled Factory at Cossipore is administered by the Government of India through the Director-General of Ordnance, the Lieutenant-Governor confined himself to ascertaining that the strikers returned to work after two days and that the public peace was in no way endangered.

PROPOSED GOPALPUR-SERAJANJ RAILWAY.

The Hon. Mr. J. Chaudhuri asked:—
I. Will the Government be pleased to state what is being done with regard to the proposed railway between Gopalpur and Serajganj?

II. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a tabular statement giving for the years 1901-1902, 1902-1903, 1903-1904, 1904-1905 the births and deaths (and in the case of the latter, showing in separate columns those due to fever and cholera and the total number of deaths and the rate per mille) in the district of Jessore, in such important places in the district of Nadia, as Krishnagar, Naradrip Santipur, Meherpur Chakdaha, Kushtia, Kumarkhali and in the Sub-division of Nature in the Rajshahi Division, all of which showed a decline of population at the last census.

The Hon. Mr. Inglis in reply said: "A survey and estimate for a line from near Gopalpur to Serajganj have been completed. The line would be 94 miles long to the town of Serajganj, and on the broad gauge, is estimated to cost 62 lakhs of rupees. An investigation has also been made during the present cold season of the possibility of extending the line to opposite Jagannathgange, the terminus of the Dacca system of railways. An estimate of the cost of such an extension is now under preparation."

SMOKE NUISANCE BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Carlyle presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the abatement of nuisances arising from the smoke of furnaces or fire-places in the town and suburbs of Calcutta and in Howrah, and to provide for the extension thereof to other areas in Bengal.

SUNDARBANS COMMISSIONER'S BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Hare moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the abolition of the office of Commissioner in the Sundarbans be taken into consideration and also to move that the clauses of the Bill be considered in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put and agreed to. The Hon. Mr. Chaudhuri moved that Clause 4 of the Bill be omitted. He said clause 3 had been made so comprehensive that it was unnecessary to include in the Bill Clause 4. The written instruments relating to land seemed likely to give rise to difficulties and as Clause 3 was comprehensive enough for all intents and purposes, Clause 4 should be omitted.

The Hon. Mr. O'Kinealy seemed to him to support the amendment. It seemed to him to be that to accept the amendment would be placing upon the words of Clause 3 a greater strain than the words could bear.

The Hon. Mr. Hare agreed with the Hon. Mr. O'Kinealy that it was necessary and desirable to retain Clause 4 partly for the reasons given in the Report of the Select Committee, and for the further reason that there might be agreements in which the Commissioner of the Sundarbans acted in a private capacity.

The Hon. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose supported the Hon. Mr. O'Kinealy and said that the omission of Clause 4 might give rise to great difficulties.

The Hon. Babu K. P. Ghosh, while agreeing with the Hon. Mr. Chaudhuri that the word "land" as used in Clause 4 might give rise to controversy, did not think that Clause 4 should be omitted and agreed with the Advocate-General's opinion.

The amendment was then put and lost. The Hon. Mr. Chowdhuri moved that the word "land" as used in Clause 4 might be amended as follows:—

"All the powers and functions heretofore vested in and exercised by the Commissioner in the Sundarbans in any district shall henceforth be vested in, and exercisable by, the Collector of that district, and in every written instrument all references to the Commissioner in the Sundarbans shall be construed as referring to the Collector."

He said, for the reasons already given by him, he thought it was better—if it was desirable that Clause 4 should be retained—to read the two clauses together so that Clause 4 might be tacked on to Clause 3.

The Hon. Mr. O'Kinealy could not support the amendment. What the Hon. Mr. Chowdhuri proposed was to mix up the two clauses and make two separate clauses referring to two different matters, deal with one matter. That was a flaw in the amendment which would prevent his supporting it. Another objection was that the proposed amendment necessitated that the words of Clause 3 should be made to support the provisions of clause 4, which related to an entirely different matter.

The Hon. Mr. Hare opposed the amendment and said that the amendment, even if adopted, was much too vague.

The Hon. Babu K. P. Ghosh was not in favour of the amendment. No useful purpose would be served by tacking on Clause 3 to Clause 4, as proposed.

The amendment was then put and lost.

The Hon. Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar moved that the words "land in" after the words "relating to" in clause 4 of the Bill be omitted; and that for the words and expression "land or any part of it" in the said clause the words and expression "subject matter of such instrument or any part thereof" be substituted. He said that if they saw that the omission of certain words in that portion of Clause 4 of the Bill and the addition of certain other words might extend the operations of that Clause, there could be no difficulty in accepting the amendment as a possible precautionary measure against all difficulties.

The Hon. Mr. Hare opposed the amendment. No case has been made out for extending Clause 4 so as to cover all written instruments, and he therefore thought that the Clause might stand as it was in the Bill now before the Council.

The Hon. Mr. Earle said that the Commissioner in the Sundarbans could only act as an arbitrator in his private capacity or semi-private capacity with the permission of the Board.

The Hon. Babu K. P. Ghosh supported the amendment, and thought it would be wise to accept it.

The Hon. Mr. Shirres said the mover should prove the existence of documents likely to be prejudicially affected by the proposed legislation.

The Hon. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose said if the mover were able to cite instances or cases in which leases relating to things other than land were dealt with or referred to, he should have had no hesitation in supporting the amendment. But when he found that the officers who were responsible for the administration of the Sundarbans did not themselves want any such provision as was suggested, he did not think it was desirable on their part—the non-official members—to press this amendment. In that view he did not see his way to support the amendment.

The amendment was then put and lost.

The Hon. Mr. Chaudhuri moved that Clause 2 of Section 13 of the Bengal Land Revenue Assessment (Resumed Lands) Regulation 1828, be repealed.

The Hon. Mr. Hare saw no objection to repealing the Section in question and accepted the amendment.

The amendment was then put and carried. The Hon. Mr. Hare moved that the Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Earle moved that the Bill to repeal the Bengal Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1880, be taken into consideration and also that the Bill be passed. He said that on a previous occasion he had said all he had to say and had nothing further to add now.

The motion was then put and agreed to. The Council then adjourned to the 25th instant.

NOTES FROM BURDWAN.

Burdwan, Feb. 28.

MATTERS OFFICIAL.

Mr. F. R. Roe, District and Sessions Judge, is going away on furlough on the 20th March next which will expire on the 1st of December 1906. He is noted to his credit that since after the notorious Samgramhar Shooting Case, he has been trying his level best to bring his name into good odour and has succeeded in winning the confidence and esteem of the local public. As it is highly desirable that appointments in a public office should give invariably satisfaction on all occasions. We shall be glad to see that Mr. Roe's locum tenens will amongst other things, see to the appointment of the most eligible candidate to the (Translation) of the Judges Court which is to be filled by the first week of April next.

Babu Ambika Charan Dutt, Munsiff of Ghatal, has been posted here as an additional Sub-Judge. It is said that the appointment is due to the recent inspection of the Local Civil Courts by the Hon. Mr. Justice Pratt.

A strong rumour is current here that the Divisional Commissioner's Office will shortly be removed to Burdwan where formerly it was. This is a good news after all. Indeed the climate of Burdwan, had it is, is considered to be far better than that of malaria-smitten Hooghly and Chittah of late the much-dreaded plague has made its appearance.

It is highly gratifying to note the daily increasing popularity of Mr. P. H. O'Brien the District Magistrate of Burdwan. He has the welfare of the people always at heart. The other day he went out on a tour in the Mofussil and when at village Nandirajpur he was duly received by Babu Khudiram Chakravarty, the Zemindar of the village, who presented him an address of welcome setting forth certain grievances which the kind-hearted ruler of the District gave hopeful assurances to speedily redress. The Magistrate highly placed as he is, ever shows himself condescending and sympathetic. He has won the golden opinion of the Burdwan public.

TROUBLES OF A VILLAGE POSTMASTER.

A few days ago Babu Surendra Nath Mitra, post-master of Kuligram, was placed before Babu Khetranath Mitra, Senior Deputy Magistrate, on charges of transmitting money-orders after due dates and making false entries in the account books. The accused was found guilty and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for eighteen months. He preferred an appeal to the District Judge who upheld the conviction of the lower court but reduced the sentence to two days and a fine of Rs. 50. On a separate charge, however, the said Post-master has been committed to the Sessions.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

The following Resolution on the constitution of the Department of Commerce and Industry appears in last Saturday's "Gazette of India."

In October 1903 the Government of India addressed the Secretary of State on the important question of strengthening the Council of the Governor-General, and of redistributing some of the subjects with which it is called upon to deal, so as to enable it to cope with the great and still unrelenting increase of public business that has taken place during recent years. They represented that the volume of work which they are called upon to transact is such as is nowhere in the world conducted by a body of high officials so small in numbers: indeed that no comparison is possible, for nowhere else in the world are the affairs of nearly three hundred millions of people controlled according to the standards of western civilization by a single Government or Executive body. They observed that owing to its peculiar conditions, India presents not only the most complex and difficult problems of internal administration, but also military and foreign questions of international importance; that in a country where the Government is invested with supreme responsibility for every branch of public activity, great subjects, such as railway administration, commercial and industrial development, and many other questions which in more advanced countries are committed to private enterprise, often require to be undertaken and always to be assisted or controlled by the Executive Government. Finally they pointed out that for the last twenty years this onerous burden had rested upon a cabinet of seven persons in all, or, omitting the Commander-in-Chief and the Military Member, of five persons, including the Viceroy; and that the task had already been found excessive a quarter of a century ago when a Council of six, instead of five, Ordinary Members was held to be required. For these reasons the Government of India urged that the business which came before them could no longer be satisfactorily disposed of by a Council of only five Members.

2. The Governor-General in Council accordingly suggested the following remedies as the best which, after anxious consideration, it seemed to him possible to devise:—

(1) that a new Department of the Government of India should be formed, to be designated the Department of Commerce and Industry;

(2) that it should be placed in charge of a sixth Ordinary Member of Council who might either be selected from the ranks of the Civil Service, or (as would, it was thought, more commonly be the case) might be chosen for his experience of mercantile and commercial business in the widest sense;

(3) that the Department of Commerce and Industry should deal with the subjects enumerated in Statement A annexed to this Resolution, as those most closely related to the commercial and industrial development of the country and most likely to prove susceptible of large expansion in the hands of a Department with special aptitude for administering them; and that in addition to the subjects shown in Statement A, the Department might also with advantage be charged with the important function of advising the Government of India on questions relating to commercial treaties and on the business and commercial aspects of the numerous contracts into which the various Departments of Government are constantly entering;

(4) that the Member in charge of the Department should have the assistance of a Secretary and an Under-Secretary to the Government of India;

(5) that instead of the Commercial Bureau proposed in earlier correspondence with the Secretary of State, there should be appointed a Director-General of Commercial Intelligence who would take the place of the present Director-General of Statistics and would act as an intermediary between the new Member and the mercantile public;

(6) that in order to enable the Director-General to discharge these functions adequately a competent officer should be appointed Assistant Director of Statistics who would relieve him of all but the more important work;

(7) that the subjects dealt with in the Home Department of the Government of India should be re-arranged (as shown in Statement B annexed to this Resolution) by transferring the business relating to factories, explosives and petroleum to the Department of Commerce and Industry and by adding to the Home Department the subjects of archaeology and epigraphy, the business relating to which has hitherto been the concern of the Department of Revenue and Agriculture;

(8) that the Home Department, with its business re-adjusted to the extent referred to above and shown in Statement B, should in future form the sole charge of one Ordinary Member of Council;

(9) that the Department of Revenue and Agriculture should be reconstructed as shown in Statement B by transferring to the new Department of Commerce and Industry the subjects entered in column 3, and receiving from the Public Works Department those entered in column 4, but that the transfer of emigration should be deferred until a decision had been arrived at on certain large questions then pending; and that the Department thus revised should form the sole charge of one Member, but that it should have two Secretaries the Secretary in the Public Works Department being transferred in order to deal with the work made over by the latter Department;

(10) that the Finance and Commerce Department, to be called in future the Finance Department, should transfer to the new Department of Commerce and Industry the subjects entered in column 3 of Statement B;

(11) that the Public Works Department of the Government of India as at present constituted should cease to exist, some of its functions being transferred to the new Department, others to the Railway Board regarding the formation of which a separate announcement has been made, and others again to the Department of Revenue and Agriculture under the arrangement already described; and

(12) that the question of the amalgamation of the Postal and Telegraph Departments should be further considered.

3. Under the law as it stood, however, it was not possible to give effect to these proposals in their entirety until the restriction imposed by the Indian Councils Act, 1874, to the effect that the sixth Member of Council, if appointed, should be called "the Member of Council for Public Works purposes" and should be primarily charged with the direction of Public Works, had

been removed by Parliamentary legislation. The Councils Act of 1874 was accordingly amended by the Indian Councils Act, 1904 (4 Edw. 7, Cap. 26) passed during the last Session of Parliament. The Secretary of State for India has now accepted the proposals made to him by the Government of India in their entirety. In doing so he made the following remarks concerning the sources from which the sixth Member of the Council of the Governor-General will be recruited:—"With reference to your observation that the additional Member of Council to be in charge of the new Department should ordinarily be chosen for his experience of mercantile and commercial business, I feel some doubt as to the possibility of readily finding on all occasions a competent man possessing such experience who would accept the post. It must, moreover, be remembered that much of the work of the transferred heads (for instance, under the Departments of Emigration, Merchant Shipping, Inventions and Designs, etc.) is of a kind that would scarcely come within the scope of ordinary commercial experience; and that the sixth Member, besides the work of the Department for which he is directly responsible, will necessarily have to make himself acquainted with, and be called upon to express an opinion and give a vote upon, all the important questions of general administration, civil, military, internal and external, which come before Your Excellency's Government as a whole. For these reasons, it seems to me that administrative experience must be regarded as one of the most important qualifications demanded of the person to be appointed sixth Member of Your Excellency's Council."

4. The title "Public Works Department" will cease to be the title of a Department of the Government of India, but it will be retained as the designation of a service, and the engineers who belong to it will be members either (a) of the Public Works Department (railway branch) or (b) of the Public Works Department (civil works branch). The former branch will be under the Railway Board; the latter under the Department of Revenue and Agriculture. The Secretary who will in future have charge, under the direction of the first-named Secretary, will be submitted by him direct to the Member in charge and not through the Secretary in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture (revenue). To this extent the present Public Works Department will retain its separate existence.

5. The Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that the Department of Commerce and Industry to be formed, which the Hon. Mr. J. P. Hewitt, C.S.I., C.I.E., has already been appointed shall be constituted forthwith, and to direct that all matters pertaining to the subjects detailed in Statement A annexed to these orders, come under the cognizance of the new Department and that the remaining transfers of business between existing Departments, which are indicated in Statement B, shall also take effect from this date.

Statement A.—Showing the business to be transferred by the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Home.—Explosives, Petroleum (including carbide of calcium), Factories, Weights and Measures, Economic products, Fishes, Geology and minerals, Practical arts and museums, Commercial exhibitions, Internal trade, Inventions and Emigration.

Finance.—Trade and commerce, Mercantile marks, Merchant shipping, Ports, post-dues and pilotage, Lighting of coasts, Cotton duties, Stationery and printing supply of stores, Statistics, Post Office, Customs.

Public Works Department.—Government coal mines and iron works, Telegraphs and telephones, Railway questions requiring reference to Government of India, Commercial aspects of railway administration.

Statement B.—Showing transfers of work between the existing Civil Departments of the Government of India.

Existing Department.—Home: Retains.—Indian Civil Service, Ecclesiastical matters, Census, Gazetteers, Fine Arts, Oriental languages, Cantonment magistrates, Vagrancy, Internal police, Law and justice, Escheats and interest property, Jail, Police, Reformatory and penal settlements, Police, Indian Arms Act, Education, Public Health, Civil medical service, Judicial and administrative establishments, Examinations, Registration, Copyright, Naturalization of aliens, Nomination to local legislative councils.

Losses.—Factories, Explosives, Petroleum (including carbide of calcium). Gains.—Archaeology and epigraphy. Existing Department.—Revenue and Agriculture.

Retains.—Forests, Land revenue, Land surveys, Agriculture Civil veterinary administration, Meteorology, Famine. Losses.—Weights and measures, Economic products, Fisheries, Geology and minerals, Emigration, Practical arts and museums, Commercial exhibitions, Internal land trade, Inventions and designs, Archaeology and epigraphy.

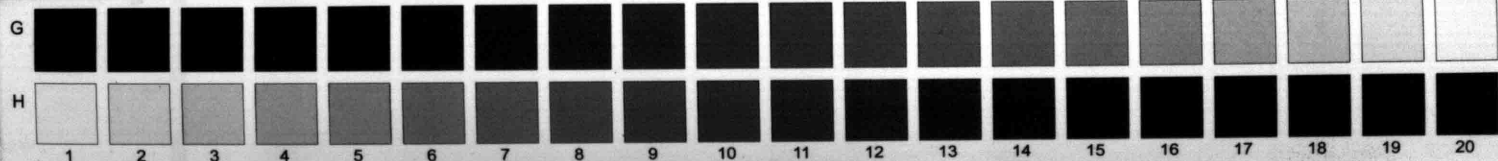
Gains.—Civil works branch of Public Works Department, i.e.—Civil buildings, Communications, Irrigations and canals Miscellaneous public works (including docks and harbours), Electricity.

Existing Department.—Finance and Commerce.—to be called in future Finance. Retains.—General Finance, i.e.—Public accounts and estimates, Public expenditure, Public ways and means and loans, Public funds, Taxation, Provincial and local finance, Borrowing of public bodies, Aliens, Revenue, i.e.—Opium, Salt, Stamps, Excise. Assessed taxes. Currency and Banking, i.e.—Mints, Coinage, Paper currency, Presidency banks, Salary and Allowances, i.e.—Pay and allowances, Leave, Pensions and gratuities: Civil Account Department.

Losses.—Cotton duties, Customs, Post offices, Trade and commerce, Merchandise marks, Merchant shipping, Ports, post-dues and pilotage, Lighting of coasts, Stationery and printing, Supply of store, Statistics.

Public Works Department.—Ceases to exist as a separate Department of the Government of India.

With reference to the letter from the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, regarding the destruction of mad dogs at Simla steps are to be taken to stringently enforce the destruction of pariah dogs, the number killed being noted in a diary by the Health Officer. Metal discs, of different pattern each year, will be issued to all licensees of dogs, the year of issue being stamped thereon, and the attachment of such discs to the collars of all dogs made compulsory.



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

TATA'S SCHEME.

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

(To be Continued.)

10. Besides this local committee it will probably be desirable, in order to emphasise the larger aspects of the scheme, to constitute some general council composed of persons resident in different parts of India whose advice and influence would tend directly and indirectly to promote the interests of the Institute. It may be admitted that there would be great difficulties in bringing such a body together for the purposes of collective discussion, but even if the Council should never meet in its full strength it might be possible by fixing the quorum at a relatively small number to enable the President to procure the attendance of a few members for a particular purpose. It is suggested that the constitution of the General Council might be somewhat as follows:—

Patron—His Excellency the Viceroy.
President—The head of a local Government to be nominated by the Viceroy from time to time for a particular period.
A Vice-President to be appointed by the President.
A representative of the Government of India.

Representatives of those local Governments who assist the Institute by contributions.
Representatives of science and learning to be elected by the members of the Council on the nomination of any member.
Representatives of benefactors who have made donations of capital sums yielding not less than Rs. 15,000 a year.

11. For the ordinary purpose of administration it seems probable that an organization somewhat on the lines sketched above would be found to work satisfactorily. But neither of the bodies concerned would be in a position to determine without the assistance of the advice of qualified experts two matters of the first importance, namely (a) the settlement of the subjects to be taught the courses of teaching and the lines of research to be followed and (b) the selection of professors for the Institute in Europe or elsewhere. Here it is suggested that the Royal Society, which has always shown itself very ready to assist in undertakings of this kind, should be invited to form a small committee of its members for the double purpose of advising in the first instance on the lines of instruction and research to be followed and of selecting professors for service in the Institute.

12. The relations of the local executive body to the general council will require careful definition, the principle being that certain acts of the smaller body would require the confirmation of the larger. This condition, however, need not be insisted on in the case of the committee charged with the management of the endowment properties, as their duties would be strictly defined by the terms of trust and it would be inadvisable to hamper them in respect of the details of administration by the necessity of procuring the concurrence of a distant authority which could be only imperfectly acquainted with the facts. I am to ask that the Messrs. Tata may be requested to draw up in general accordance with the principles set forth above, detailed proposals for the formation of a single body or council which shall comply with the conditions of the Charitable Endowments Act, and shall be divided into committees for the purpose, of dealing with—

(a) the executive work of the Institute, (b) the management of the endowment properties.

(c) any general questions that may arise from time to time.
Each of these committees should be given authority to act independently within the limits of the powers entrusted to them and the relations between the two minor committees and the larger general committee should be clearly defined. These proposals should be included in the statement of terms which should be annexed to the application to be made by the Messrs. Tata to the Government of India under section 4 of the Charitable Endowments Act.

13. The Government of India have not overlooked the anomalous character of an arrangement under which they will settle a scheme which includes the administration of certain properties in the city of Bombay, but in view of the opinion of the Advocate General of Bengal that only a single scheme can be framed under the Act, and of the obvious impossibility that the Bombay Government should be empowered to deal with that portion of the scheme which is concerned with the management of the Institute at Bangalore, they trust that the Governor in Council will accept the arrangement now proposed. I am to suggest that in order to expedite the settlement of the intricate questions now pending it will probably be convenient that the Messrs. Tata should in future address the Government of India direct.

14. The decisions of the Government of India on each of the main points discussed in this letter may now be stated as follows:—

(1) The Government of India accept Mr. Lowndes' valuation of the endowment properties.

(2) They agree to his proposals regarding the guarantee fund, subject to such explanation as the Messrs. Tata may desire to offer on the question of insurance charges.

(3) They accept his scheme for the management of the endowment properties with the modification suggested in paragraph 5 of the Bombay Government's letter of 11th May 1904.

(4) They agree to make an annual grant to the Institute of not more than one-half of the local assets as defined in paragraph 5 above subject to the conditions:—

(a) that the operations of the Institute are conducted on lines approved generally by the Government of India, and

(b) that the amount of the grant shall not exceed Rs. 1,50,000.

The grant calculated on the local assets as they now stand will be Rs. 77,500.

(5) They agree to make an initial grant of Rs. 2,50,000 towards the construction of the necessary buildings and the provision of scientific apparatus.

(6) They consider that no legislation will be called for, and that the administration both of

the endowment property and of the Institute itself can best be provided for by a scheme to be settled by the Government of India under the Charitable Endowments Act.

(7) This scheme should provide:—
(a) for the vesting of the endowment property and all contributions subsequently accruing in the Accountant General, Bombay, as Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, such separate trust deeds and conveyances being executed as may be required to satisfy the technical requirements of the Act;

(b) for the formation of a single Council in which would be vested the general administration of the Trust, and which would exercise its functions through the agency of three Committees charged respectively (i) with the management of the endowment property, (ii) with the executive administration of the Institute itself, and (iii) with the decision of such general questions as may call for settlement from time to time;

(c) for defining the powers and duties of the governing body and of the committees in question;

(d) for the reference of certain questions to an advisory committee of the Royal Society or, in the event of its being found impossible to arrange for the formation of such a committee then to such other scientific authority as the Government of India, after consultation with the Council, may appoint for the purpose.

(8) The Government of India will address the Mysore State on the subject of the action to be taken to transfer the requisite jurisdiction under the site of the Institute.

(9) The Messrs. Tata should now proceed to submit to the Government of India an application under section 4 of the Charitable Endowments Act annexing to their application a statement of the terms which they desire to be included in the scheme to be settled under section 5. The statement of terms should deal with the matters discussed in this letter and any other points that the applicants may deem essential to the inception and maintenance of the Institute.

15. With these ample resources at its disposal, the prospects of the Institute may now be looked upon as assured, and the occasion is a fitting one for the Government of India to explain the policy by which their present action is dictated, and the attitude which they purpose to adopt towards the future development of the Institute. While sympathising cordially with the far-reaching aims of its promoters, the Governor General in Council has no desire to associate himself intimately with the actual administration of the Institute, or to claim a determining voice in the settlement of the lines of research to be followed or the methods of instruction to be employed. He is, indeed, ready to assist in furthering by all legitimate means the comprehensive scheme which owes its origin to the generous philanthropy of the late Mr. Tata. But he realises that the results of the experiment that is now about to be tried will depend less upon the conditions of the project itself than upon the character and energy of those who may come forward to take advantage of the facilities for advanced study which it will offer. The Government of India are anxious in no way to interfere with the free growth of whatever forms of intellectual activity and economic enterprise the Institute may encourage, or create, and they will therefore confine themselves strictly to exercising no more than that degree of influence and control which is justified, and indeed rendered obligatory, by the liberal grant-in-aid now promised.

H. H. RISLEY.

Secretary to the Govt. of India.
Finance Department.—Mr. H. W. Dent, C.S., Joint-Magistrate Alipore, has been selected for appointment in the enrolled list of the Finance Department.

The Viceroy's Spring Tour.—The Viceroy's spring tour has not yet been definitely fixed, but it will probably be a comparatively short one.

Railway Board.—Mr. Dood, second member of the Railway Board, is due to arrive at Bombay to-day by the incoming English mail, and he will join his appointment in Calcutta next week.

A Railway Tragedy.—Early Wednesday morning the Bellaghata Railway Police was informed that a murder, attended with robbery, was committed in the "gombes" near the Bridge No. 3 of the E. B. S. Railway Southern Section near the Bellaghata Railway Station. Inspector F. A. Kleop, with Sub-Inspector N. B. N. Chander Gupta, hastened to the spot and found the body of the gatekeeper smeared with blood under a "charpoy" with a wound on his skull. On enquiry it was found that the deceased, an old railway servant, attended his night duties as usual, and then went to bed and all his valuables were missing. It is believed that the ruffians knew that the deceased possessed some cash, and in order to take it away committed this brutal murder. A vigorous Police enquiry is going on, but no trace of the culprits has yet been found.

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Far Surpasses

COD LIVER OIL.

Its action is unrivalled

In nourishing and strengthening the system and eradicating diseases of LUNGS, HEART, THROAT and other ORGANS.

It is a sovereign remedy for Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, Consumption, Phthisis, Susceptibility of Cold and other complaints of Lungs and Throat.

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It purifies the blood, gives tone to the weak constitution, corrects the liver, creates good appetite, and makes a New and Happy Man.

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writes:—

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"I am very glad to say that the bottle of CHYAVANA PRAS, which I got from you a month ago, has done me much good. It has checked the cold and tendency to fever which troubled me, and the SHAKING OF HAND owing to NERVOUS DEBILITY is somewhat less. Please send me another bottle to last for a month."

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Medicine for one month's use ... Rs. 3.
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Postage, packing and V. P. charges extra.MANAGER,
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Complaints of above nature come to us every now and then and we would advise the complainants to use our PANCHATIKTA BATIKA, the infallible specific for Malaria and other periodical fevers which will do away with the necessity of calling a doctor and will cure him thoroughly at a nominal charge.

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Raj Bahadur Dwarka Nath Bhattacharya, Retired Sub-Judge writes:—

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Babu Amar Nath Basu, Zamindar, Bagbaraz, writes:—

"I can very strongly certify as to the genuineness of the medicines prepared at the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, and to the extraordinary care with which KABIRAJ KESHAB LAL ROY executes his treatment upon me."

Babu Madhu Sudhan De, Retired Jailer, writes:—

"I placed some of the members of my family under the treatment of KABIRAJ KESHAB LAL ROY. In some of the cases he has shown exceptional skill and discretion in curing them. There is no doubt that the medicines prepared at the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA are genuine, otherwise they could not act so miraculously."

Babu Dina Nath Roy, Assistant Manager of the "Patrika" writes:—

"My grand daughter had been suffering from chronic dysentery attended with fever and other complications. When some of the eminent physicians failed to cure her, I placed her under the treatment of KABIRAJ KESHAB LAL ROY, who, I am glad to say, cured her within a very short time. The case of my grand daughter has convinced me that Ayurvedic medicines, if properly prepared, are most efficacious for chronic diseases."

MANAGER,
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It puts an instantaneous stop to discharges however painful and obnoxious.
It is a deadly enemy of Gonococci, the Gonorrhoea-bacillus.

Has not hitherto been known to fail in any cases however complicated.
Removes immediately all complaints about urination.

Is equally effective in chronic and acute cases.
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At once removes all agonising symptoms not to speak of itching inflammation and ulceration of the organ affected.
Restores, without fail, the vital power, buoyancy and the ... ms sires.

Brings life to the living dead.

MITIGATES THE PENALTIES OF SIN AND BRINGS HOPE TO THE HOPELESS.

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One of the Leading Medical Journals the "Indian Healing Balm has given immense satisfaction" Lancet" says:—"We have no hesitation in saying in cases of Gonorrhoea."

Dr. R. Laugin and Co's Healing Balm is a safe and reliable therapeutic agent and one on which medical men and the general public may, without any doubt, depend."

Dr. K. P. Gupta, Col. I. M. S. M. A. M. D. F. R. C. S. (Edin) S. C. (Cambridge) J. P. H. D. (Cantab) late Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, etc., says:—"Healing Balm is almost a specific for Gonorrhoea and may be safely and strongly recommended for that troublesome and obstinate disease."

Dr. B. K. Bose, Surgeon-Major M. D. C. M. I. M. S., etc., says:—"I have tried Healing Balm in cases of acute Gonorrhoea with success."

Dr. U. Gupta M. D. M. C. (Edin) F. C. S. (London) etc. says:—"I tried R. Laugin and Co's Healing Balm and found it really a very excellent medicine for both chronic and acute Gonorrhoea."

Dr. G. C. Bez Borna, L. R. C. P. (Edin), L. P. P. and L. M. (Glasgow) &c., says:—"I tried Healing Balm. It is a splendid remedy for the diseases of Genito-urinary tract and it acts like a charm. Its diuretic property is well marked."

Dr. Edwin S. Pushong, M. D. P. & S. Resident Surgeon, Park Street Government Charitable Dispensary, says:—"Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhoea and was found successful."

Dr. M. N. Banerjee, B. A., M. R. C. S., L. S. A. (London), says:—"It is a good combination and I have found it good in Gonorrhoea."

Dr. M. L. Dey, M. B., M. Ch., Late Resident Medical Officer, Paisley Asylum (London), says:—"Healing Balm contains some of the choicest drugs for the cure of Gonorrhoea and Gleet."

Dr. R. G. Kar, L. R. C. P. (Edin) Secretary, Calcutta Medical School, etc., says:—

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ATTEND WITH

Flatulence, Headache, Loss of Sleep, Biliousness, Rumbling in the Abdomen, Pinching or Gripping Pain in the Bowels, Acid Eructations, Burning Sensations in the Heart or Stomach, Nausea or Vomiting after Meals, Costiveness, Diarrhoea, Distaste for Food, Loss of Appetite, Giddiness, Lassitude, etc.

One dose will give immediate relief and, if continued for some time, will radically cure the disease.

Rao Bahadur B. G. Sathe, Poona writes:—"My wife suffered from Dyspepsia for a long time, but your SUDHA CHURNA has done her good."

K. G. Kelkar Esqr., B. A., Principal, Poona Training College, writes:—"I was suffering from Acidity and Colic. Rao Bahadur B. G. Sathe recommended to me your SUDHA CHURNA and got a bottle of it for me from you. I am using it and am glad to say I have got rid of my complaints."

Baginath Singh Esqr., Post Master, Hoshangabad, writes:—"Kindly send two bottles of SUDHA CHURNA, as I have derived much benefit by its use or Constipation, as also my friend to whom I gave the Churna."

Babu Umesh Chandra Kotal, Sub-Registrar, Maisadad, writes:—"I am glad to inform you that SUDHA CHURNA has given much relief to the patient who was suffering from Acidity for the last few months."

Babu Srikrishna Mahanti, Outback writes:—"SUDHA CHURNA is no doubt very efficacious in its effects and clears bowels regularly. Since I have been taking it, I have had no attack of indigestion and it has done me immense good."

Babu Lakshmi Narayan Ray, Mursidabad, writes:—"I have been giving the medicine to my wife thrice daily, for the last 5 days, and it has done her good."

Babu Krishna Prosad Maitra, Zemindar and Hon. Magistrate, Malancha, Sonarpur, writes:—"I am glad to say that I have derived much benefit within a couple of days of its (SUDHA CHURNA's) use and have every reason to believe that by continuing the medicine for some time I shall be completely cured of the indigestion from which I have been suffering. I used many other medicines, both Allopathic and Kabiraj, but none of them has given any benefit."

Babu Karunanidhan Mukherjee, Hon. Magistrate, Burdwan, writes:—"The phial of SUDHA CHURNA which you sent about a week ago, has given much relief to my wife who has been suffering from dyspepsia since last 3 years. Please send 3 large phials without least delay."

Dr. G. B. Chinnaswamy, 1st grade, Hospital Assistant, Koppa, Kadur Dist., says:—"Kindly send at an early date one large phial of SUDHA CHURNA. The one you sent has done much good to the patient."

Dr. Shrikrishna Chinnaji G., Medical Officer, Shriwardhan, Junjira State, writes:—"Your SUDHA CHURNA, I am glad to say, has proved wonderfully efficacious in a very troublesome case of Flatulent Colic. Kindly send one large phial at your earliest convenience."

PRICE—A large phial Re. 1-8, and a small phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/8 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/16 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/32 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/64 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/128 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/256 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/512 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1024 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2048 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4096 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/8192 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/16384 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/32768 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/65536 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/131072 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/262144 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/524288 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1048576 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2097152 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4194304 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/8388608 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/16777216 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/33554432 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/67108864 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/134217728 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/268435456 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/536870912 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1073741824 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2147483648 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4294967296 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/8589934592 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/17179869184 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/34359738368 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/68719476736 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/137438953472 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/274877906944 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/549755813888 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1099511627776 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2199023255552 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4398046511104 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/8796093022208 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/17592186044416 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/35184372088832 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/70368744177664 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/140737488355328 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/281474976710656 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/562949953421312 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1125899906842624 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2251799813685248 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4503599627370496 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/9007199254740992 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/18014398509481984 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/36028797018963968 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/72057594037927936 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/144115188075855872 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/288230376151711744 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/576460752303423488 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1152921504606846976 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2305843009213693952 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4611686018427387904 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/9223372036854775808 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/18446744073709551616 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/36893488147419103232 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/73786976294838206464 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/147573952589676412928 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/295147905179352825856 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/590295810358705651712 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1180591620717411303424 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2361183241434822606848 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4722366482869645213696 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/9444732965739290427392 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/18889465931478580854784 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/37778931862957161709568 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/75557863725914323419136 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/151115727451828646838272 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/302231454903657293676544 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/604462909807314587353088 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1208925819614629174706176 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2417851639229258349412352 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4835703278458516698824704 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/9671406556917033397649408 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/19342813113834066795298816 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/38685626227668133590597632 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/77371252455336267181195264 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/154742504910672534362390528 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/309485009821345068724781056 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/618970019642690137449562112 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1237940039285380274899124224 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2475880078570760549798248448 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/4951760157141521099596496896 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/9903520314283042199192993792 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/19807040628566084398385987584 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/39614081257132168796771975168 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/79228162514264337593543950336 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/158456325028528675187087900672 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/316912650057057350374175801344 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/633825300114114700748351602688 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/1267650600228229401496703205376 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/2535301200456458802993406410752 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/5070602400912917605986812821504 phial Re. 1-2, and a 1/101412048018